THE CONQUEST OF PERU,

BY

FRANCIS PIZARRO.

CONTAINING

An Authentic Detail of the Government, Religion, Laws, &c. of that opulent Country.

Together with

The Voyages of the first Adventurers, particularly FERDINAND DE SOTO, for the Discovery of FLORIDA.

Published for the Improvement and Entertainment of the BRITISH YOUTH of both Sexes.

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THE CONQUEST OF PERU BY FRANCIS PIZARRO.

CHAP. I.

Pizarro's parentage; raiſes himſelf by his own abilities; ſerves under Balboa with ſucceſs; acquires an eaſy fortune; joins Almagro in purſuit of new diſcoveries; they fit out a veſſel; have ſome skirmiſhes with the natives, and hear of vaſt treaſure, but are greatly diſtreſſed; and all their men deſert except fourteen.

FRANCIS Pizarro, to whoſe valour and conduct Spain owes the reduction of Peru, was the illegitimate ſon of Gonzalo Pizarro, an officer at Truxillo, a town in Eſtremadura, who at firſt expoſed him at the door of the church; but being afterwards diſcovered to be the father, was obliged to take him under

his protection; which he did: but he fulfilled the duty of a parent very indifferently; giving him no manner of education, and obliging him to keep his hogs; an employment in which he ſpent great part of his youth.

Having an innate impulſe that taught him to look with contempt on his forddid occupation, and prompted him to an active life, he ran away, and got on board a fleet which was bound for the Weſt-Indies, where he was very ſoon taken notice of for his prudence, aſſiduity, and other qualities; ſo that he ſoon raiſed himſelf from the meaneſt offices to a commiſſion, and having ſerved with unblemiſhed reputation in Hiſpaniola and Cuba, he accompanied Hojeda to Darien, by whom he was left to govern in his abſence, a colony, which he had ſettled there.

Pizarro afterwards ſerved under Vaſquez Nunez de Balboa, and acquired the character of a ſkilful, courageous, and intrepid officer. He ſettled at Panama on its being firſt built, and as he had gained a very conſiderable fortune, ſeemed fully diſpoſed to a life of eaſe and enjoyment; from which, however, he was

ſoon

ſoon diverted by an immoderate thirſt of glory, and perhaps an intermingled deſire of increaſing his poſſeſſions.

It was in the beginning of the ſixteenth century that the Pinſons diſcovered Brazil on the eaſtern coaſt of South-America, but no diſcoveries had been hitherto made to the weſtward of that country, when Pizarro, ſpirited up by Almagro, entered into partnerſhip with him and Ferdinand de Luques, a rich ſchoolmaſter who had ſettled at Panama, to purſue the enterprizes ſet on foot by Nunez de Balboa for that purpoſe.

Pizarro and Diego de Almagro agreed to ſet ſail on this expedition, in a fleet fitted out at their own coſt; and, in caſe of new diſcoveries, the former was to keep poſſeſſion of the place, while the latter was to return to Panama, in order to procure recruits and other neceſſaries; which Ferdinand was to prepare, and have in as much readineſs for them as poſſible, being to act in quality of agent; nor indeed was either of the other two ſo well cut out for this employment, he being not only the moſt experienced, but the richeſt of the three, and reckoned worth a great ſum of ready money, beſides a

large eſtate, and was likewiſe ſole proprietor of the iſland of Tobago, in the bay of Panama.

Diego took his name of Almagro from a town of Caſtile in Old Spain, where he was found, when an infant, in the ſtreet: ſo that it never was known who was the author of his birth; his education was indeed very indifferent; conſequently his riſe in life was owing intirely to the ſtrength of his natural genius; and he had a ſoul formed for great undertakings.

The deſign of theſe three adventurers were looked upon by the common herd of mankind, whoſe notions are generally groveling and confined, as romantic and impoſſible; and ſuch as muſt infallibly end in their ruin.

Superior to vulgar ſuggeſtions, or to the common and received opinions, they perſiſted in their intentions, entering into articles never to abandon one another upon any account, ſwearing, that no danger nor diſappointment ſhould detach them from their enterprize; and to ſhare equal parts of whatever wealth they ſhould obtain; after having deducted the royal dues and all other contingent charges.

There

There was ſomething extremely ſingular and ſolemn in the manner of ratifying their articles; Pizarro and Almagro publicly aſſiſted at high-maſs, celebrated by Ferdinand de Luques, who having broken the hoſt into three parts, took the firſt himſelf, adminiſtering the reſt to them, thereby ſignifying, that they ſhould purſue their project with as great eagerneſs as if their eternal ſalvation depended on its ſucceſs.

It was no very difficult matter to obtain the ſanction of Don Pedro de Arias, otherwiſe Perrarias, governor of Panama, to their ſcheme, who looked upon ſuch an attempt in three private perſons as wild and romantic; for ſeveral expeditions, of which he himſelf had been the chief promoter, having failed, he could not think it was poſſible for them to ſucceed: however, in caſe they did (contrary to all expectation) he relied upon his own rank and authority for transferring the profits of their labour to himſelf, which he would not have ſcrupled doing, as he was proud, cruel, unjuſt, and immoderately fond of money; if they miſcarried, which every body judged they would, it could be no manner of

diſappointment or diſadvantage to him. However, he was every way groſsly miſtaken; for he neither reaped the ſweets of their voyage, nor was he gratified with the news of their miſcarriage, being ſoon after removed from his dignity.

Having got together ſuch people as had been concerned with Balboa in his expeditions, and purchaſed a new veſſel built by him, Pizarro embarked about the end of November, 1524, together with one hundred and fourteen men, officers included, the moſt inconſiderable body that ever dared to think of ſo great an undertaking.

From Panama he ſailed to the Pearl iſlands, where he took in wood, water, and provender for his horſes, having four along with him; theſe animals being a valuable and extremely ſcarce commodity then, in that part of the world. From thence he proceeded about one hundred leagues to the ſouthward, and landed at Port Pinas upon the continent. The inhabitants having fled with precipitation up the country, which appeared to be bogs and mountains over-run with wood, without the leaſt proſpect of proviſion, Pizarro ran farther down the coaſt,

coaſt, though he did not find the proſpect improve there; beſides, the rainy ſeaſon coming on apace, and his men beginning to ſicken through fatigue, and want of proper ſuſtenance, he ſent his ſhip for a ſupply of proviſions to the iſle of Pearls.

During this period he was joined by Almagro, and above ſixty recruits; when, notwithſtanding the unwholeſomneſs of the climate, and badneſs of the ſoil, they landed in conjunction, and had a number of bloody encounters with the natives, in one of which Almagro had the misfortune to loſe an eye. Happening ſoon after to meet with gold to the amount of fourteen or fifteen thouſand crowns, they recovered their ſpirits, reſolving at all hazards to purſue their original project; in which they were much encouraged by their pilot, who had during the time of their being on ſhore, ran down to cape Paſſaro, where he ſeized ſome priſoners, who had given him a moſt inviting deſcription of the riches of the country whither they intended to go. But in the mean time, this luſcious deſcription was like the thirſt of Tantalus; ſince though ſo nigh

theſe deſirable treaſures, they could not by any means approach them, their proviſions being exhauſted, and many of their beſt hands much out of order; beſides, Pizarro had ſent Almagro to Panama with the gold they had got, to purchaſe proviſions and neceſſaries.

He was here joined by forty recruits; and having bought horſes, arms, cloaths, ſhoes, proviſions, and medicines, he returned to Pizarro, whoſe ſituation was truly miſerable; the greater part of his men being ſick or dead. They removed, however, from this inhoſpitable place to the iſle of Gallo; where having ſtayed fifteen days, they ran farther ſouth along the coaſt, and found the weather continue ſo bad, and the country ſo much under water, that the fearleſs Pizarro began to deſpair of ſucceſs.

Affairs wore ſo bad a face, that the two commanders were near coming to an open rupture, in a diſpute relating to their purſuing or abandoning the voyage: however, the former being determined, Pizarro, with the remainder of his men, went back to Gallo, in order to wait for the return of Almagro, who was again diſpatched for reinforcements to Panama.

Many

Many of the ſoldiers deſiring to go along with him, their requeſt was abſolutely refuſed; but, notwithſtanding the great care which was taken to prevent their diſpatching any letters, ſome of them having threatened to complain to the governor, that ordering them on this expedition was devoting them to deſtruction, a paper, ſubſcribed by moſt of them, ſetting forth their hardſhips, and deſiring to be recalled, was ſo artfully encloſed in a bottom of yarn, that it eſcaped the vigilance of all the officers, and came ſafe to the hands of Pedro los Rios, the new governor, Pedrarias being lately removed.

It was upon this account that Almagro was prevented from raiſing more recruits, and a ſhip diſpatched to the iſland of Gallo, with an officer on board, to bring back ſuch of the men as ſurvived. The arrival of the veſſel was the moſt grievous wound Pizarro ever felt; he, notwithſtanding, intreated the commiſſary to allow all who choſe it voluntarily, to remain with him; this requeſt being granted, he drew a line with the point of his ſword, and endeavoured, in the moſt pathetic terms he could utter, to

perſuade them not to abandon ſo glorious an undertaking, now they were on the eve of reaping a golden harveſt for their manifold toils: ſaying, that for his part, he was perſuaded, ſuch renown as well as advantage muſt accrue from a little more perſeverance, that he was determined never to retreat, let the conſequence be what it would; he declared, he did not mean to take the leaſt advantage of them, for he would divide equally with them whatever they ſhould acquire; and concluded with deſiring ſuch as had courage enough to perſiſt, to come over his ſword. But ſo ſevere were the miſtreſſes of theſe poor people, that only thirteen Spaniards and one mulatto came over, the reſt embarking with the commiſſary, ſailed back to Panama.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Pizarro is joined by ſome volunteers, with whom he paſſes the equator; Candia examines the country, of which he gives a good account; they are well uſed at Payta; entertained by a great lady there; to whom Pizarro preaches chriſtianity; returns to Panama; the governor hinders his levying men; and he embarks for Spain.

THE rage and deſpair of Pizarro at being thus cruelly abandoned, are inexpreſſible; his proſpect was now wild and barren, nor did his future ſeem much better; that his affairs would ſuddenly amend, came ſcarce within the compaſs of his hope: notwithſtanding, all his grief was inward; he communicated his thoughts to none; but aſſuming ſomething of a chearful look, retired with the few undaunted followers of his deſperate fortune to the iſle of Gorgona, for a ſupply of wood and water. Here he was joined, in a ſhort time, by Almagro, with a few volunteers whom he had allured into the ſervice by the hopes of booty, together with a pilot.

With theſe they left Gorgona, and ſailing along the coaſt paſſed the equator; having been near two years in reaching thirty degrees of ſouth latitude, a courſe which, now that the winds and tides are known, is made in ſo many weeks. However, they picked up ſeveral Indian veſſels in their way, of conſiderable value; all which inflamed the moſt ſanguine hopes they could have formed of the immenſe wealth of the land in queſt of which they were bound.

In order to put the truth of theſe reports beyond all poſſibility of doubt, Pizarro choſe Pedro de Candia, a native of Candia, whence he took his name; a ſenſible, well-ſpoken man, who was very capable of inſinuating himſelf into the good graces of the Indians, to penetrate as far as he could into Tumbez, and make his report from his own obſervations.

Pedro performed his commiſſion in the moſt maſterly manner, and returned to Pizarro with aſſurances, that the country infinitely ſurpaſſed what the warmeſt imagination could conceive; that their wealth and ſplendor, to him who had not ſeen it, was altogether incredible,

credible. The walls of their public buildings, in the conſtructing which great ingenuity was manifeſted, being covered with gold and ſilver.

Pizarro now called a council of all his people, in which, after much ſerious deliberation, it was unanimouſly reſolved, that they ſhould return to Panama; where, having now received ſufficient aſſurances of the prodigious advantages to be reaped from an expedition to Peru, it was to be hoped they would find people willing enough to embark in this undertaking, as well as ſupplies, that muſt make their ſucceſs indubitable; beſides, it was allowed by them all, that in their preſent weak circumſtances, they could not proceed with any probability of ſucceſs; but that, when properly reinforced, there could not be any fear of their again meeting with the dangers they had undergone in this voyage, as they were taught by experience to avoid them.

They firſt, however, ſailed a few leagues up the coaſt, and arrived at Payta, called by Pizarro Santa Cruz, one of the beſt ports on the Peruvian coaſt; here they caſt anchor, and found the natives very civil and humane, ready

to

to ſupply them with whatever proviſions they wanted; for which, they in return gave them fiſh-hooks, glaſs-beads, and many other trifles. The ſwelling of the ſea forced them ſuddenly to quit the harbour, leaving Alphonſo de Molina on ſhore; in ſearch of whom, having coaſted ſouth to no purpoſe, they returned, and he ſoon after came on board, in a boat of that country, not much unlike a float; telling them he had been entertained in a very handſome manner by a lady of great diſtinction, who was very deſirous to ſee the ſhip; and ſoon after ſhe ſent other floats to pilot them to a ſafer harbour, a little more to the northward.

Pizarro ſent Molina, with three others, on ſhore, to compliment this lady, and to deſire the honour of ſeeing her on board; ſhe complied with their requeſt, came along with them, and was received by Pizarro in the moſt elegant manner his circumſtances would admit: and, ſhe in return, invited Pizarro to come on ſhore; and though he offered to wait on her without any hoſtages, it was what ſhe abſolutely refuſed; for ſhe next morning ſent twelve Indians of quality, who remained on board, in ſpite

of

of Pizarrro's earneſt remonſtrances, all the time he was on ſhore.

Madam Capillana, for ſo was this lady called, received him when landed, with a great retinue, and immediately conducted him to an elegant arbour; where ſhe entertained him ſumptuouſly at dinner, and afterwards with ſeveral Indian diverſions, which were extremely pleaſing.

Pizarro thanked her for her great civilities, and pronounced a long ſpeech, in which he ſet forth the excellencies of the chriſtian religion, and the errors of idolatry; concluding with exhorting her and all her attendants, to embrace the truths of chriſtianity, and to ſubmit to the king of Spain, whom he ſaid, was the moſt powerful potentate on earth.

To this the Indians anſwered in general terms, that they did not know much about religion, but were ſatisfied with that of their anceſtors; and, as to a ſovereign prince, they knew none who had a right to command their allegiance but their own lawful inca, ſo they ſtiled their emperor Guayanacapa.

After this converſation the Spaniards retired to their ſhip, very well ſatisfied with

with their entertainment; and when they were about to hoiſt ſail, Alcon, one of the men who had accompanied Molina in his embaſſy to madam Capillana, having fallen deeply in love with that lady, begged that he might be left behind; but that favour being peremptorily refuſed him, he went ſtark mad, fancying himſelf a king, and telling his companions they were uſurpers and vagabonds, come to deprive him of his crown; but that he was able to protect it with his ſword, which he drew, and would certainly have done ſome miſchief, if the pilot had not brought him to the ground with an oar, and chained him down below deck.

About the end of the year 1527, Pizarro returned to Panama, bringing with him many pieces of gold, three Indian boys, whom he intended to inſtruct for interpreters, and ſome Peruvian ſheep, whoſe ſtrength and make were very remarkable.

The ſpecimens that he brought with him of the riches of this fine country, and the accounts given by him and his people of what they had ſeen, made thoſe who had before looked upon this expedition

dition as ruinous and absurd, confess their error, and strongly inclined to partake of its apparent advantages. But Pizarro being opposed by the new governor in raising men, and other preparations for pursuing his schemes; and finding the weight of an authority superior to his own absolutely necessary, he, with the consent of his partners, embarked for Old Spain, to sollicit the protection of the emperor Charles V. and such powers as were necessary for forwarding this mighty expedition.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Pizarro arrives in Spain; is preſented to the emperor; is appointed to govern ſuch diſcoveries as he ſhall make; is joined by his brothers, and returns to Panama; continues his courſe to St. Matthew's bay, where he ſuffers for attacking, unprovoked, the defenceleſs Indians; ſtrives to ingratiate himſelf with the people of Tumbez, whom he intimidates, and obtains vaſt riches; a review of the diviſions in Peru at the time of Pizarro's diſcovering that country.

PIzarro arrived without any remarkable accident at Sevil, whence he ſet out for Toledo, where Charles V. then held his court; and here he preſented his Imperial majeſty with ſome Peruvians dreſſed in their country habits, two or three Peruvian ſheep, and ſome gold and ſilver veſſels, the manufacture of that country. He met with a moſt gracious reception.

The emperor having attended with great pleaſure to Pizarro's account of the difficulties he had undergone in his ſearch

ſearch for Peru, referred him for inſtructions to the council of the Indies, which board authoriſed him to proceed in his intended conqueſt of Peru, as far as two hundred leagues to the ſouthward of Tumbez.

He then got confirmed to himſelf, by an imperial grant, the titles of captain-general, lord-lieutenant, and chief juſtice of Peru. This was expreſsly contrary to his agreement with his partners, he having ſolemnly promiſed to procure the ſecond of theſe titles for Almagro, and the laſt for his pilot, who had ſerved with great ſkill and fidelity. For Ferdinand he obtained the title of protector-general of the Peruvians, and the emperor's promiſe of recommending him to the pope to be nominated biſhop of Tumbez; of which place Almagro was appointed governor, with the title of Don, and his baſtard ſon was legitimated. Of the thirteen men who had choſen to remain with Pizarro on the iſland of Gallo, on ſuch as were well-born was confered the honour of knighthood, and ſuch as were not, were raiſed to the rank of gentlemen.

Theſe

Theſe commiſſions were expedited at Toledo on the 26th of July, 1528, to the ſatisfaction of the adventurer, whom ſix Dominican friars were ordered to attend as miſſioners to Peru; and to the contentment of the court of Spain, which was highly pleaſed with the proſpect of annexing another powerful empire to its dominions. It is to be obſerved, that Spain had the peculiar advantage, in her American conqueſts, of not advancing a ſingle piece of money for the ſervice; the countries themſelves yielding a ſufficiency to defray every expence, and likewiſe to ſatisfy the utmoſt avarice of the conquerors.

Pizarro having ſettled the affairs that brought him to Spain, now paid a viſit to Truxillo, where he was born: here he found his father married to a woman of faſhion, by whom he had three ſons Ferdinand, Gonzalo, and John; and his mother, who was an ignorant country girl, wedded to a farmer, by whom ſhe had only one ſon, called Francis Martin d'Alcantara: theſe four brothers he enliſted into the ſervice, and arrived with them in the month of January, 1530, at Nombre de Dios, which is twenty-

five

five leagues to the north-weſt of Panama, whither, with all his people, he ſoon came.

Almagro, much diſſatisfied with Pizarro's having engroſſed to himſelf all the honours and authority that he could procure, at firſt refuſed to aſſiſt any farther in the affair, till Pizarro having promiſed to cede the title of lord-lieutenant, and ſome other advantages in his favour, they were in appearance reconciled; though Almagro never heartily forgave him, as will appear in the ſequel.

Three ſhips were now prepared for the expedition, on board of which were embarked an hundred and eighty-five ſoldiers, thirty-ſeven horſes, with arms, ammunition, &c. Pizarro ſet ſail for Panama, but the winds were as contrary as they had been in his former voyage; ſo that finding it impracticable to keep the ſea any longer, with the leaſt degree of ſafety, while there were horſes on board, he anchored above an hundred leagues to the northward of Tumbez, at a place which they called St. Matthew's Bay. They having landed here, fell upon the natives without any provocation,

cation, made many of them prisoners, and ransacked their towns, in which they found vast treasures; for the inhabitants being honest themselves, suspected no deceit, and consequently took no care of concealing any thing from them. The Spaniards remitted near thirty thousand pesoes in gold by the vessels which were sent for reinforcements to Panama, together with a large quantity of emeralds; many of which were lost through the ignorance of those plunderers, who, to try if they were as hard as diamonds, pounded them with hammers.

Pizarro and his men were reduced to great extremity for want of provisions, in consequence of this barbarous treatment of the innocent natives; and many of them contracted a strange sort of disorder, which they supposed to be occasioned by the water they drank being poisoned; for, on a sudden, their faces and bodies were covered with warts that put them to excessive pain; and many of them bled to death, when these were cut off.

Having received several recruits from Almagro, and being joined by some Spaniards, who had been invited hither by

the fame of the riches of the country, from Nicaragua, a place contiguous to the bay of Honduras, he continued his rout to Tumbez, keeping the ſea all along in ſight.

As violent diſputes ſubſiſted between the inhabitants of Tumbez and thoſe of a neighbouring iſland called Puna, Pizarro thought to advantage himſelf by their diſſenſions, in making friends of the latter; but finding them diſſembling and falſe, he attacked and defeated them, ſetting at liberty above ſix hundred natives of Tumbez, whom he had detained priſoners, and among them a perſon of great diſtinction: theſe he ſent home, eſcorted by three of his party; and, in conſequence of this civility, expected the Tumbezenes to become his friends. But he was much deceived; for the firſt of his men that afterwards fell into their hands, they revengefully murdered. Notwithſtanding, the landing of a few Spaniſh horſe and artillery among them, ſoon put them into diſorder; for they fled wherever the Spaniards advanced, who at length became entire maſters of the valley of Tumbez, where the piles of treaſure which they found, were almoſt incre-

incredible; having poſſeſſion not only of the inca's palace, but of the temple of the ſun, where gold, ſilver, pearls, emeralds, and other rich ſpoils lay in immenſe heaps.

So great a conſternation did the firing of the ordnance, and the appearance of the horſes, ſpread among the fugitives, that they declared, if the Spaniards were not gods, they muſt be devils; it not being in the power of man to oppoſe them.

Pizarro did not neglect to make a proper uſe of the terrors his preſence had infuſed, reſolving to purſue his preſent advantages to the utmoſt; however, he put off this for the preſent till he had erected a fort, to which he might, in caſe of any emergency, eſcape, and in which the expected recruits might quarter. He built one accordingly on the ſea-coaſt, and named it St. Michael; in the year 1531. It was the firſt Spaniſh colony planted in Peru; and a church being built there at the ſame time, the office of protector of the Indies was conferred on F. Reginald de Pedraga, father Ferdinand de Luques being rendered incapable to fulfil it thro' indiſpoſition.

It

A ſettlement of this ſort was very much wanted; and there was no place on the whole coaſt ſo well ſituated for that purpoſe as that choſen by Pizarro.

His next ſtep was equally diſintereſted, prudent, and ſpiriting; for he equally divided the gold and ſilver in his cuſtody among his men, giving notes for it payable at Panama, to ſuch as were to accompany him; and to thoſe who remained behind in the new colony, he delivered their ſhares, without abatement, to enable them to proſecute their different occupations.

It was obvious that he could not maintain his footing in this territory by force; and yet, from his erecting and fortifying a town, as well as compelling the natives to acknowledge the Spaniards as their maſters, it was plain he reſolved to ſupport it.

Nothing expoſes a kingdom ſo open to invaſion, or contributes to weaken it ſo much as inteſtine diſputes; and this was the caſe of Peru when Pizarro invaded it. It will not be impertinent to the ſubject to take a ſlight view of the affairs of the kingdom at that time.

All accounts agree, that few princes who ever filled the throne of Peru, were ſuperior in virtues to the late inca, or emperor, called by ſome Spaniſh writers Guayanacapa, and by others Guayanacava: he was generous, valiant, and humane; nor was his good fortune inferior to his deſerts: he was generally proſperous in his undertakings, having made ſeveral acquiſitions to his crown, particularly that of a province called Quito; and to confirm his title to it, he eſpouſed the daughter of the late ſovereign of that country, by whom he had a ſon called Athuallpa, or by ſome Spaniſh authors, Atabaliba; to whom, when dying, he bequeathed the crown of Quito, as being independent of the inca's dominions, and deſcending to him in right of his mother.

Hueſcar, the eideſt ſon of Guayanacapa, upon his ſucceſſion to the hereditary dominions of his father, inſiſted upon Atabaliba's ſurrendering the kingdom of Quito, promiſing to return him an equivalent elſewhere; which the other abſolutely refuſed, offering, however, to do him homage for the crown, though it was his own, not only by right of inheritance,

heritance, but by the tenor of his father's will; and his offer was rejected.

In conſequence of this diſpute, each ſide raiſed armies, and thoſe were very formidable ones, between which an engagement enſued, which laſted with great and repeated ſlaughter, for three days ſucceſſively. The forces of Atabaliba were at length diſcomfited, and he himſelf taken and impriſoned; notwithſtanding which, while his guards were immerſed in rejoicing and revelry, on account of their victory, he found means of breaking a hole through the wall of the houſe wherein he was impriſoned, by which he eſcaped, and preſented himſelf once again to his ſubjects; telling them, that by the aſſiſtance of the gods, he had been changed into a ſerpent, and under that form had eſcaped the vigilance of his keepers.

The report of this miracle was ſoon diffuſed among the natives of Quito, and had ſuch an effect upon them (for ſuperſtition and credulity was never any where more firmly rooted) that every body took up arms in his defence, and he ſoon ſaw himſelf maſter of an army much more conſiderable than ever, with

which he marched againſt his brother, who, he was informed, was on the road to meet him with a more powerful force. This report incited him to ſend two of his beſt generals, with ſome light armed troops, to reconnoitre Hueſcar's ſtrength; and theſe, as they drew near his camp, were obliged to ſhun the high road, to avoid diſcovery. Hueſcar, to avoid the noiſe and confuſion of his army, happened, unfortunately for him, with ſome of his chief courtiers and principal officers, to take the ſame road; when Atabaliba's men perceiving the royal ſtandard, and ſuſpecting the true ſtate of the caſe, reſolved now to make a bold puſh for ending the war: wherefore they marched down, ſurpriſed, and routed this body of forces, and took the inca himſelf priſoner. He would have been ſoon ſet at liberty by his main army, had he not been forced to order it to retire, thoſe who detained him threatening otherwiſe to cut off his head; aſſuring him, they would afterwards die to a man, being reſolved not to ſurrender: at the ſame time, obſerving, that he need be under no apprehenſions from his confinement, ſince all that Atabaliba required, was per-

permiſſion to enjoy the kingdom of Quito as his vaſſal; which being ſecured to him, he was too generous to detain him.

On this he gave orders for his army to halt, and having aſſembled the principal officers, ordered them to withdraw the forces to Cuzco, the place of the inca's reſidence; which command was immediately complied with.

CHAP. IV.

Pizarro's aid ſollicited; receives an embaſſy from Atabaliba; Pizarro diſcourſes with Atabaliba, by whom he is viſited in his camp; ſome confuſions ariſe, in which the Spaniards fall on the natives, and take the prince priſoner; Hueſcar put to death privately; Ferdinand Pizarro ſets out for Spain; Atabaliba's ſpeech to him at parting; the occaſion of that prince's fall.

THINGS were thus ſituated when Pizarro entered Peru, and was intreated by ſome compaſſionate noblemen to aſſiſt Hueſcar; to whom he replied in general terms, that he was on his

march to aſſiſt the diſtreſſed, and ſee juſtice impartially adminiſtered: after which he was honoured with a ſolemn embaſſy from Atabaliba; ſolliciting his friendſhip and alliance; which determined him to viſit that prince at Caxamalca.

In his way thither the Spaniards ſuffered exceedingly, marching over a parched, barren deſart, for almoſt twenty leagues: after which they entered a rich, fertile country, where they were ſufficiently refreſhed, and then proceeded on their journey with more ſatisfaction.

They were ſoon after met by other deputies from Atabaliba, who preſented to Pizarro from the inca, a pair of gold buſkins richly ornamented, and bracelets of the ſame metal, adorned with emeralds and other precious ſtones; which, it was notified to him, he was to wear at his audience with Atabaliba, who by thoſe marks would know him. Theſe the deputies preſented him, beſides many other ſumptuous preſents, and brought with them great abundance of proviſions, of which the army ſtood in great need: beſides which, the politeneſs and ceremony in the behaviour of the chief of the embaſſy, who was himſelf of the blood of the incas, contributed very

much to elevate the Spaniards; for they attributed all theſe proceedings to the terror they had impreſſed upon the minds of the people, in which they were partly right; for they certainly dreaded them, not ſo much from notions of their ſtrength and valour, as from ſuperſtitious motives, imagining them deſcendents of the ſun.

We have already made ſome trifling obſervations on the credulity of the people; and it is neceſſary to lay before you ſomething more of that ſort which prevailed amongſt them, greatly to the ſucceſs of the Spaniards.

There was an old tradition univerſally received by them, that the elder ſon of one of their incas, who had lived many ages before, had ſeen a ſtrange kind of ſpirit, who called himſelf Viracocha, deſcendent of the ſun, whoſe dreſs and appearance was very different from that of the Peruvians; for as theſe have no beards, this phantom had one of a conſiderable length, his garment was of a very uncommon make, and he led a ſtrange ſort of animal in his hand, the likeneſs of which the prince had never ſeen before. This fable worked ſo effectually

upon the people, and was ſo generally received as a truth, that they no ſooner ſaw a bearded Spaniard, clothed differently from themſelves, and holding a horſe, than they cried out, "Virachoca, "or the child of the ſun, is arrived:" beſides, it was rumoured that the late inca Guianacapa had propheſied a little before his death, that his empire was near a fall, and would in a ſhort time become the property of a bearded race of aliens. And, whoever conſiders ſeriouſly, muſt be forced to allow, that theſe reports acting on a weak-minded people, joined to the diviſions between the two brothers, muſt have contributed prodigiouſly to the conqueſt of Pizarro.

When they arrived at Caxamalca, they found that Atabaliba had removed to a place at a ſmall diſtance from it, whither the general diſpatched his brother Ferdinand Pizarro, along with Ferdinand Soto, in quality of ambaſſadors.

They were introduced into the royal preſence with great pomp and decorum, and were greatly aſtoniſhed, as well as filled with rapture, at the wealth and magnificence that every where ſhone around them.

When

When the Spaniards approached Atabaliba, who was ſeated in a chair of maſſy gold, they ſaluted him after the Spaniſh faſhion, with which, he ſeeming well pleaſed, roſe and embraced them; when a golden chair being brought for each, they ſat down, and were ſerved with perfumed liquors, in which he pledged them, by two maidens of the royal blood. This kind of treat, as they were told by their wretched interpreter, was a particular mark of the inca's eſteem.

When this ceremony, which was accompanied with a deſert of fruit, was over, Ferdinand made a long harangue, in which he told the emperor, that Francis Pizarro, a very famous general, was come as ambaſſador to him from the high-prieſt of the chriſtian church, and from Charles V. the moſt potent emperor in the world, to point out to him the right road to heaven, and make overtures of friendſhip.

To this the inca made, as they imagined, a pathetic anſwer, as it drew tears from the eyes of thoſe who underſtood him; and concluded with telling them, that he would come the day following to the quarters of their general,

and hold a perſonal conference with him. They could not collect much more from his ſpeech; and from the lame, ſtupid manner in which their interpreter explained to them what the inca had ſaid, they had ſome reaſon to think that he had received but a poor interpretation of the addreſs made him by Ferdinand Pizarro.

This interpreter's name was Phillipillo, or Little Philip, ſo called from the meanneſs of his origin. He was one of thoſe whom we have mentioned Pizarro intended to have educated for an interpreter, and one more ſtupid he could not have fixed upon. Francis Pizarro having intelligence of his viſit, drew up his cavalry in three parties, of twenty men each; for his whole number of horſes was but ſixty, and theſe he poſted behind an old wall, that their ſudden appearance might have the ſtronger effect, while he himſelf waited Atabaliba's approach, who advanced with ſixteen thouſand men, at the head of an hundred foot drawn up in order of battle.

The figure of father Vincent de Valverda, who advanced from the Spaniards with a crucifix in one hand, and his breviary

breviary in the other, to ſalute the emperor, ſurpriſed him extremely; however, he received him with great courteſy, and liſtened attentively to a long ſpeech, wherein the friar preached up the univerſality and truth of the roman catholic religion, the benefits of the redemption by Jeſus Chriſt, the great authority the pope derived from St. Peter, and the vaſt extent of Charles V's dominions; to all which he intreated him to ſubmit, leſt the Spaniards ſhould let looſe upon him plagues equal to thoſe God allowed to be poured down upon the hardened Pharaoh.

A diſſertation of this ſort, upon topics which, as the inca had never before heard of, it was impoſſible for him to underſtand, muſt certainly appear as nonſenſe; and much more ſo when delivered thro' a channel of ſuch ignorance and barbarity as Phillipillo's interpretation: however, the inca made ſome ſort of a reply, which was delivered to the friar by the ſame perſon, in ſuch terms that he could not poſſibly divine their meaning. Thus a ſcene of confuſion between both parties enſued, which was augmented by a tumult cauſed by ſome Spaniards, who

fell to plundering a conſecrated idol very richly decorated, in which they were at firſt prevented by the Indians, till their emperor, whoſe command is to them as a divine law, cried out, that they ſhould do nothing to offend the children of the ſun. At the noiſe of this tumult, father Vincent running haſtily to appeaſe it, dropped his crucifix and breviary, which being found by ſome of the treacherous Spaniards trampled under foot, they cried out, "An inſult on Chriſt!" on which the horſe ſuddenly advanced, bearing down all before them, the poor Indians falling tame ſacrifices to their perfidy, without making the leaſt oppoſition, to the amount of five thouſand. Pizarro himſelf was the firſt that ſeized the litter in which Atabaliba was borne, whom he dragged to the ground, receiving from one of his followers a cut upon his hand at the ſame time, which was intended for the emperor; nor was there a drop of Spaniſh blood beſides ſpilt at this ſcene of unproked ſlaughter, of calm, cool villany, which was practiſed on the 3d of May, 1533, a day kept ſacred by the roman catholic church, in honour of finding the croſs of Chriſt,

after

after its having been many years buried.

The Spaniſh writers differ very much in their relations of this inhuman tranſaction, but none of them can wipe off the ſtain which has ſtuck to the reputation of Pizarro and his followers; and indeed to the Spaniſh name in general.

Herrera, a Spaniſh author of conſiderable reputation, affirms, that the Spaniards were obliged to act in this perfidious manner for their own preſervation; that Atabaliba had endeavoured to lull them into a careleſs ſecurity, in order the more eaſily to deſtroy them. For which purpoſe he had commanded his vanguard to arm themſelves privately, and at a certain ſignal to fall on the Spaniards, having furniſhed themſelves with chains and cords to bind thoſe whom they intended to ſpare for ſervitude. Pizarro, by this account, acted conſiſtently with that principal law of nature, ſelf-preſervation.

Vega, on the contrary, ſays, that Atabaliba was from the beginning ſtruck with awe, from believing the Spaniards to be the children of the ſun, and the perſons ſpoke of in the prophecy already men-

mentioned, behaved to them with all poſſible reſpect, declaring, that he looked upon Pizarro as an ambaſſador from heaven, to whoſe commands he ought to paſs the moſt implicit obedience. And the ſame author relates, that when the Spaniards attacked the Indians without any provocation, the inca forbade them to make the leaſt reſiſtance, though he himſelf ſhould be ſacrificed; that he quietly ſubmitted to his fate, reprimanding thoſe who crowded round his litter to aſſiſt him, many of whom were ſlaughtered in attempting to relieve him.

We ſhall not pretend to determine which of theſe is the true account; we ſhall only obſerve, that Herrera, for the honour of his country, would endeavour to palliate, if poſſible, the barbarities of the Spaniards, while we have ſome room to think, that Vega, who was deſcended from the blood-royal of Peru, would ſtrive to remove an odium, as far as poſſible, from the region of his nativity: but we are rather inclined to believe the latter, when we conſider, that had Atabaliba been ſo treacherous and cunning as Herrera repreſents him, he would ſcarcely have allowed the Spaniards to

march ſo far as Caxamalca, when there were ſo many convenient places for cutting them off to a man, in the road thro' which they paſſed to it; what makes this more incredible is, that had the Indians intended any kind of aſſault, they would not have fallen ſo tamely as they certainly did, without ſtriking a blow.

After Pizarro had removed Atabaliba to his head-quarters, he reviewed the ſpoils of the field, conſiſting of great variety of gold and ſilver utenſils, the jewels, ornaments, and wardrobes of the inca and his principal officers, with many women of quality, and ſome of the mamaconds, or conſecrated virgins, taken priſoners.

The next day Pizarro ſent out a party to plunder the camp, in which they found an immenſe quantity of riches, notwithſtanding the Peruvians had carried off three thouſand loads of gold and ſilver.

He now iſſued out a proclamation, ſetting forth, that the inca was alive, and all that choſe it might render to him the uſual ſervice: this was done to prevent the Peruvians from concealing or carrying off more of their treaſure; and it had the deſired effect, many of the courtiers

courtiers when they came in to attend upon their prince, bringing with them valuable preſents. Pizarro ordered that the inca, whom he, nevertheleſs, kept in fetters, ſhould have the enjoyment of his women, and be ſerved with the ſame order and reſpect as before he was taken priſoner. He affected to bear this turn of fortune with great patience, but was ſometimes angry with his chains.

Perceiving the fondneſs of the Spaniards for gold and ſilver, and being deſirous of recovering his liberty, he offered to fill a large room with thoſe metals, as high up as a man could reach his hand, for his ranſom; a propoſal which, tho' they at firſt doubted, they at length accepted of: and accordingly a ſmall party of Spaniards was ſent with ſome of the inca's attendants to Cuzco and other cities, to bring in the promiſed treaſure.

About this time Almagro arrived at St. Michael's, very much diſordered, from Cape Franciſco, into which place he had been driven by contrary winds, and had loſt about forty of his men in his march, having had but one hundred and fifty at firſt. Here he was informed of Pizarro's

zarro's great ſucceſs; and fearing that he would refuſe him his ſhare of the treaſures, he conſulted with his officers, whether it was not better to proceed in queſt of ſome new diſcovery independent of him: a faithful account of this deliberation was diſpatched by Almagro's ſecretary, who was greatly diſpleaſed with his maſter, to Pizarro; upon which he immediately ſent ſeveral very obliging meſſages to Almagro, inviting him to a conjunction, and aſſuring him of his integrity; while he, at the ſame time, obſerved, that there were ſome people, who, for their own private ends, endeavoured to ſow diſſenſions between them, againſt which he beſeeched him to be on his guard; becauſe if they once took effect they would certainly end in the ruin of one, if not both of them, as well as of the deſtruction of their enterprize; and to enforce this advice, he ſent him convincing proofs of the treachery of his ſecretary, whom Almagro inſtantly ordered to be hanged up.

There is an ingratitude in this laſt affair, which throws an additional blemiſh on the character of Pizarro, whom we can by no means excuſe; however, there

there was great craft in his conduct upon the whole, ſince the forces which he had with him were not ſufficient of themſelves to complete the conqueſt of Peru; and had Almagro oppoſed him, it might have given new vigour to the Indians, and ended not only in depriving him of his plunder, but in ſubverting their ſcheme, and deſtroying them both.

This reinforcement made Atabaliba ſtill more anxious about his releaſe; judging very wiſely, that the cruelty of the Spaniards would increaſe with their ſtrength: beſides, ſome of the Spaniſh officers, who had accompanied his meſſengers to Cuzco to bring his ranſom, had held a conference with the confined Hueſcar, who related to them his brother's cruelty and uſurpation, and promiſed to reward them much more magnificently than Atabaliba could poſſibly do, provided they, who, he underſtood were come to do juſtice to all, would releaſe him.

Atabaliba, upon receiving information of theſe overtures, determined on the death of his brother; but, leſt the Spaniards ſhould, from his perpetrating ſuch a fact openly, condemn him to death, he reſolved to ſift Pizarro's inclination upon the

the ſubject, which he did, by informing him, with great pretended grief and concern, that his brother had been murdered in priſon by his keepers. This news had very little effect upon Pizarro, who only ſlightly obſerved upon it; "That it "was the fortune of war, ſome fell by "the ſword, ſome were made priſoners, "and each who ventured ought to be "ſatisfied with his fate."

It was not without the greateſt pleaſure that Atabaliba found Pizarro ſo little affected at this event; and, in conſequence of his behaviour, he immediately diſpatched private orders for Hueſcar's death; which were immediately executed, tho' in what manner is not known: ſome writers affirming, that he was drowned; others, that his body was cut into ſmall bits, that his ſubjects might not pay to it the ſame honours uſually done to their dead incas.

It was rumoured that, before he fell, he thus addreſſed himſelf to his murderers: "'Tis true, my reign has been "but ſhort; yet, in death I have this "comfort, that he whoſe cruelty is the "cauſe of it, who ſcruples not wading "to a throne thro' the blood of his bro-

ther,

"ther, and his lawful prince, ſhall be "diſappointed in his ambitious views, "and ſurvive me but a very ſhort time."

Soon after this event the treaſure for Atabaliba's ranſom arrived; but, Pizarro falling ſhort in his hopes of the quantity, was informed, that much more remained behind, in the temple of the inviſible God, whither he diſpatched his three brothers, and ſome of Atabaliba's officers in queſt of it, but they could find no more than a ſum amounting to the value of ninety thouſand crowns, beſides what the ſoldiers embezzled: the prieſts who were ſenſible of the avarice of the Spaniards, and had heard of their ſacrilege to ſome other temples, previouſly carried away above four hundred loads of gold, ſilver, and jewels, which they depoſited in the earth, or at leaſt conveyed to ſuch a diſtance, that they never fell into the hands of the Spaniards.

About this period Almagro arrived in the neighbourhood of Caxamalca, whom Pizarro received with the firmeſt marks of affection and regard, giving him a very competent ſhare of his booty, and diſtributing one hundred thouſand ducats among

among the men that accompanied him: and now Pizarro, having deducted the emperor's fifths, divided the reſt of his ſpoil, which was prodigious, among his own officers and men, pretending to pay a very ſingular reſpect to any thing meritorious; and it is ſaid, the meaneſt ſoldier in his ſervice received for his ſhare two thouſand pounds ſterling, tho' the whole that was divided did not exceed more than one fifth of Atabaliba's ranſom; and Pizarro reſerved to himſelf the inca's golden chair, with ſome other valuable curioſities.

Ferdinad Pizarro was choſen as the fitteſt perſon to wait on the emperor Charles V. with his ſhare of the treaſure, and a journal of their proceedings: ſeveral private ſoldiers inſiſted upon being left at liberty to attend him, which was violently oppoſed by Almagro and moſt of the council, as it would weaken their little army conſiderably; but this oppoſition was over-ruled by Pizarro, who wiſely obſerved, that permitting them to go, was one of the moſt judicious ſteps that could be taken; for, as the meaneſt ſoldiers departed ſo very rich, they might

be

be ſure of gaining ten men for one man that they ſhould loſe.

"You rejoice," ſaid Atabaliba to Ferdinand, when he came to take leave of him, having a peculiar reſpect for each other, "that you are returning to your "native ſoil; but for me, who, when "you are gone, have no friend left among "your countrymen, it affords a melan-"choly proſpect! the newly-arrived "commander, meaning Almagro, for "what reaſon I know not, owes me no "good-will; and the man you call trea-"ſurer, beholds me with an evil eye! "let us then take our laſt farewel; for "theſe cruel people, I plainly ſee, will "not allow me to live to welcome your "return."

He was not wrong in his conjecture; Almagro had, ſince the firſt confirmation he received of the treaſures of this nation, imagined, that were Atabaliba ſet aſide, they would be the more eaſily ſeized upon; and, though Pizarro at firſt treated this propoſition with deſerved contempt, yet, in a very ſhort time, reſentment induced him to countenance what honour taught him to abhor. He

was

was incenſed at Atabaliba's ſeeming to ſlight him; and a ſhort account of the relation of this, we hope, will not be diſagreeable.

Atabaliba, tho' cruel and ambitious, enjoyed good natural parts; he was penetrating and curious, very anxious in his inquiries after the cuſtoms and manners of the Spaniards; but what particularly confounded him was their writing and reading, being unable for a long time to diſcover whether theſe were natural or acquired gifts.

In order to be convinced of this particular, he aſked one of the Spaniſh ſoldiers, if he could write the name of God on his thumb-nail, which, in conſequence of the ſoldier's anſwering in the affirmative, he intreated him to do. This inſcription Atabaliba ſhewed to many of the Spaniards, all of whom explained it, which made him imagine that theſe were indeed divine and innate gifts; when unfortunately Pizarro falling in his way, to him he alſo ſhewed his nail, requiring from him the ſenſe of the inſcription; but Pizarro, who could neither write nor read, aſhamed, turned off from him without reſolving the queſtion.

From

From that time the inca conſidered theſe as the acquiſitions of ſtudy or inſtruction; and, while it leſſened his opinion of the greatneſs of the Spaniards in general, gave him but a poor impreſſion of the leader, whoſe origin, he was perſuaded, muſt have been but mean, ſince he was exceeded in knowledge by the meaneſt of his ſoldiers.

The diſlike, or rather contempt that he ever after ſhewed to Pizarro, layed the foundation of his ruin; which was completed by the villany of Phillipillo, who, having fell in love with one of the inca's wives, was treated with a great deal of ſcorn, and a complaint was made againſt him to Pizarro, which was but little regarded: upon this he accuſed the inca of conſpiring, and actually contriving the deſtruction of all the Spaniards; which ſtory, groundleſs and ridiculous as it muſt neceſſarily appear to any man of ſenſe, was laid hold of by the two generals, both foes to the unhappy inca; and with ſeveral other trivial circumſtances formed into articles of impeachment; in conſequence of which he was tried, found guilty, and condemned to the flames: but, this ſentence was mitigated

gated into ſtrangling, on his conſenting to be baptized, which he did to avoid ſo horrible a death as burning; but, it is a queſtion if he knew one article of the chriſtian faith: yet, however, he was baptized, and that was ſufficient to make him a chriſtian in the eye of enthuſiaſm.

It was advanced againſt him amongſt other articles, that he had uſurped the throne of Peru, being himſelf a baſtard; that he had cauſed his brother, the lawful monarch, to be impriſoned; that he was an idolater; that he had permitted his ſubjects to be ſacrificed; that he had waged unneceſſary wars; that he had made away with the public treaſure; that ſince he had been the Spaniards priſoner, he had encouraged the Indians to rebel againſt them, &c.

In this manner they attempted to give the colour of juſtice to one of the moſt illegal and barbarous combinations that could poſſibly enter the mind of man; which, to their honour be it ſpoken, was violently oppoſed by moſt of the perſons of family or diſtinction in the ſervice, who publicly declared, that his kindneſſes to them deſerved a better return; and that they ſaw no right they had to

condemn a ſovereign prince, whom, if they intended to act juſtly by him, they ought to ſend, together with the articles of his impeachment to Spain, and let him be diſpoſed of according to the emperor's will.

Notwithſtanding this, Pizarro and his council proceeded arbitrarily, until they had carried matters to the extremities we have already mentioned, and poor Atabaliba was no more an object of diſturbance.

Father Vincent, who was their religious tool during the whole proceſs, proſtituted in this affair, not only his character as a prieſt, but reflected diſgrace on the whole chriſtian church, by acting in ſuch a manner as ought to make his memory always deteſtable.

It has been affirmed, but the aſſertion has not been proved, that the Indians inſiſted upon the death of Atabaliba, to revenge that of his brother Hueſcar. That this is but a very weak defence for Pizarro's conduct, appears from his not proclaiming the late inca's brother emperor; beſides this, we find the Peruvians every where acting offenſively, which they had not done before.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

One of Atabaliba's generals oppoſes him; Paullu, a brother of the inca, joins Pizarro; Manco Capac acknowledged inca of Peru by the Spaniards; Pedro de Alvarado enters Peru, but is prevailed upon to retire to his government in Mexico; Pizarro lays the foundation of the city of Lima, as alſo of Truxillo; Almagro acts imprudently; the mines of Potoſi diſcovered.

UPON the inca's death, Rumnavi, one of his generals, who commanded the rear-guard of his army, ſeized the province of Quito, and put to death all ſuch officers as he ſuſpected to have been firmly attached to the late emperor, while Quiſquis, another of his generals, who had been Hueſcar's executioner, with ſtill a better army, attempted to ſecure part of the province of Cuzco; but far from ſhewing any ſpirit, fled before a very few Spaniards that were ſent in purſuit of him; and baſely murdered a few others, whom he made a ſhift to ſurpriſe.

This general, hoping thereby to ſupport his ſuperiority, endeavoured to perſuade Paullu, Hueſcar's younger brother, whom he contrived to get into his hands, to aſſume the reins of the empire; which this young prince generouſly refuſed, telling him he ſcorned to erect his grandeur on the ruin of his country; that he thought it more preferable to be a good man than a bad monarch; and he deſpiſed an authority devolving to him at the ruin of his family, to which juſtice as yet gave him no title, his brother Manco Capac, who was ſtill living, being the true heir.

This gallant and unexpected reply, had ſuch an effect upon Quiſquis, that tho' he had this prince in his power, he permitted him to retire, and join Francis Pizarro, to whom he behaved with the ſame greatneſs of ſoul; telling him, that if, as he profeſſed, he came among them to be the adminiſtrator of juſtice, he ought to ſhew himſelf ſuch, by declaring for his brother, who had already a good army, and if ſupported by him, would be able once again to give a luſtre to the Peruvian crown.

This had the deſired effect; for tho' Pizarro had ordered a ſon of Atabaliba to be proclaimed inca, iſſuing, in his name, ſuch orders as beſt promoted the Spaniſh intereſt; this repreſentation of royalty dying ſoon, he found it more to his intereſt to join Manco Capac, whom he cauſed to be proclaimed inca, and aſſiſted at his inauguration in the ſame manner as his predeceſſors had been; at the ſame time promiſing, that he would ſtrictly obſerve the treaty agreed upon by Francis de Chaves, while, for his part, the inca gave ſome hopes of his inclining to Chriſtianity; but for an illuſtration of theſe tranſactions we muſt go a little back.

Atauchi, a brother of Atabaliba, having amaſſed a great deal of treaſure to purchaſe his liberty, was advancing for that purpoſe towards Caxamalco, when he received an account of his brother's death, as alſo that the Spaniards were marching off to the capital city of Cuzco, with a deſign of eſtabliſhing their power ſtill more firmly, by taking poſſeſſion of that place.

Being extremely enraged at his brother's murder, he immediately raiſed a

body of about ſix thouſand men, and with them lay in ambuſh upon the road thro' which the Spaniards were to paſs, making ſo ſucceſsful a ſally, that ſeveral of them were killed and taken priſoners; among the latter was Sancho de Cuallar, who had drawn up the impeachment againſt the unfortunate inca, and attended at his execution. Atauchi had at firſt reſolved to have ſacrificed them all to the manes of his brother, had not Quiſquis, who had joined him, very luckily fallen upon another body of Spaniards, ſeventeen of whom he killed, and made ſeveral priſoners, among whom were Franciſco de Chaves, and Hernando de Haro, who had openly proteſted againſt the ſentence of Atabaliba; and Atauchi, out of gratitude to theſe, forgave the reſt; Sancho de Cuallar excepted, whom he ordered to be ſtrangled on the ſame ſpot at Caxamalca, whereon Atabaliba, under his inſpection, had expired.

This generous Indian not only gave his Spaniſh priſoners their lives, but took care that ſuch as were wounded ſhould be cured, diſmiſſing them with conſiderable preſents, on Franciſco de Chaves' ſigning the following articles.

That

That all acts of hoſtility ſhould ceaſe on both ſides: that peace ſhould be inviolably maintained between the Indians and Spaniards for the future: that the latter ſhould allow Manco Capac, the true heir, to aſcend the throne of Peru: that they ſhould releaſe ſuch Indians as they held impriſoned: that for the future, they ſhould not fetter them, but be ſatisfied with their attending as menial ſervants, and not as ſlaves: that the laws of Peru, ſo far as they did not claſh with the chriſtian religion, ſhould be allowed to be in full force: that this treaty ſhould be ratified by Francis Pizarro, and his ſovereign the emperor of the Romans.

It was granted to the Spaniards, that they ſhould have the free exercile of their religion, lands aſſigned them for their ſupport, and a free commerce.

Had the Spaniards acted upon the principles of honour or virtue, nay even from the dictates of common diſcretion, they had obſerved ſtrictly this treaty; in conſequence of which all Peru had in time become Chriſtians without bloodſhed; but pride, avarice, and luxury, excluded reaſon. However, theſe con-

ſequences we ſhall but ſlightly treat of, as we only intend a hiſtory of the firſt diſcovery of Peru, and not an account of all the ſubſequent events.

By ratifying this agreement Francis Pizarro not only made all the forces under the command of Manco Capac, whom he acknowledged inca, his friends, but likewiſe the inhabitants of Cuzco who had fled from their dwellings, were encouraged to return back; with a better opinion of the Spaniſh lenity and juſtice.

There was a neceſſity for this conduct; becauſe Rumnavi and other generals had aſſembled an army in the ſouthern parts, and poſſeſſed themſelves of Quito, which they abandoned on the approach of Sebaſtian Belalcazar, who was ſent with a ſmall detachment againſt them, having ſet fire to the late inca's palace, in the great hall of which there was conſumed prodigious wealth, which had for that purpoſe been thrown into it.

Pizarro's power was likewiſe threatened with oppoſition from other quarters; ſo that prudence and policy obliged him to engage ſome allies.

The brave Don Pedro de Alvarado, Cortes's gallant companion, had landed at

at Puerto Viejo, with an army of five hundred men, the greater part of which was well mounted, and conſiſted of men of birth, who having before gone thro' many hardſhips in the conqueſt of Mexico, were as good troops as any in America; and were in hopes of ſharing in the ſpoils of Peru. Theſe forces having refreſhed themſelves at Fort St. Michael, continued their march to Quito; but were met in the valley of Riobamba, by a large body of troops ſent by Pizarro, under the command of Almagro, who had joined Belalcazar.

A battle ſeemed now almoſt inevitable, when both generals foreſeeing, how deſtructive it muſt be to them let victory ſide either way, entered into a mutual agreement, and a private treaty was ſigned between them, whereby Alvarado engaged, in conſideration of his being paid one hundred thouſand peſoes of gold, to retire to his government of Guatimala with all his troops, and never either attempt or encourage a deſcent into Peru, during the lives of Pizarro and Almagro.

That the forces of Alvarado might not be diſpleaſed, there was a treaty

publiſhed, in which it was ſtipulated, that each party ſhould be left at liberty to proſecute their ſeparate diſcoveries to their own profit; by which means, Alvarado had ſecured a power for ſuch of his men as ſhould chuſe, on his departure, to ſtay behind him, equal to thoſe of Pizarro.

Things being thus amicably agreed, Alvarado and Almagro joined forces, intending to march to Cuzco, where Pizarrro was then quartered, to procure his ratification of the treaty.

It is neceſſary for us to take notice, that the peace between Manco and Pizarro was concluded after Almagro had left Cuzco to go in queſt of Alvarado; conſequently at this juncture he was totally ignorant of it: nor had the confirmation of it yet reached Quiſquis, who was encamped near Caxamalca, in expectation of it, with a good army, which he was then ready to diſband.

Both generals ſeeing ſo numerous a body of forces, thought it neceſſary to make an attack, which they accordingly did. They gained at firſt a conſiderable advantage, for Quiſquis had not the leaſt ſuſpicion of ſuch proceedings: however,

however, he retreated to ſome neighbouring rocks, the ſteep acceſſes of which he defended with undaunted courage, rolling down huge ſtones upon the aſſailants with ſuch good aim, as to kill ſeveral of them, particularly the horſe. Thus he gallantly defended himſelf till night, under cover of which he retired to the hills; but his rear being driven from a very difficult paſs, which they maintained for many hours, ſecuring a ſafe retreat higher up the country, from whence in a few days after he made a ſally with ſome ſucceſs: and, tho' he loſt a very conſiderable number of his troops, did not ſeem diſpirited, having killed above fifty Spaniards.

The arrival of Pizarro put an end to theſe feuds: he marched to meet Alvarado on the road, on pretence of paying him the greater reſpect, but in reality to prevent his approaching nearer Cuzco, leſt the vaſt riches of the place ſhould induce him to infringe the articles, and ſtay longer than ſtipulated.

Pizarro, before he departed from Cuzco, took a formal leave of the inca Manco Capac, informing him, that he was going to meet ſome of his country-

men, with whom he was to ſettle the peace upon a firmer footing; and recommending his two brothers to his protection during his abſence. The inca in return wiſhed him a proſperous journey; and aſſured him, that his kindred ſhould be as dear to him as his own brethren; at the ſame time he diſpatched meſſengers to all the places thro' which Pizarro was to march, ordering his ſubjects to treat him and his people with the moſt cordial friendſhip.

Pizarro, on his arriving at Caxamalca, had a meeting with the Indian chiefs, whom he informed of the treaty that ſubſiſted between Manco and him, proteſting to them, that his countrymen had been entirely ignorant of it, or they had never fallen upon them; and promiſing that hereafter all hoſtilities ſhould ceaſe.

Then marching forward to the valley of Pacha Camac, he met Alvarado, whom he embraced in the tendereſt manner; not only agreeing to perform the articles ſtipulated by Almagro, but making him a preſent of twenty thouſand peſoes of gold more, by way of recompence for the expence he had been at in marching

to

to his aſſiſtance; beſides theſe preſents, he gave him ſeveral beautiful emeralds, turquoiſes, and utenſils of gold, curiouſly wrought, for his own private uſe, at the ſame time commanding all his officers to look upon him, during his ſtay, as their commander.

Alvarado, having ſufficiently reſted and refreſhed himſelf, took his leave of the two generals, well ſatisfied both with the treatment he had met with, and the treaſures he had acquired, retiring to the ſea-coaſt, where he embarked on board his own ſhips, having brought two with him for Guatimala, much more thinly attended than when he left it.

Almagro went back to Cuzco, and Pizarro ſtaid behind, to ſearch out a proper place for founding a new city, which he at length did on the banks of the little river Lima, in twelve degrees thirty minutes ſouth latitude, one hundred and twenty miles weſt from Cuzco. The firſt ſtone of this city was laid on the 6th day of January 1534, wherefore he called it the city of Kings, or Villa de los Reyes; but it has ſince been much better known by the name of Lima.

Having

Having ſettled ſome of his people here, he portioned the neighbouring lands among them, and allotted a ſufficient number of Indians to each, to aſſiſt in the planting. He proceeded to a ſpot about three hundred miles farther north on the ſouth coaſt, where he founded another city, which he called Truxillo, after the name of his birth-place.

While Francis Pizarro was thus wiſely employed, he received news that his brother Ferdinand had been as ſucceſsful at the court of Spain as could be wiſhed; having procured for him the title of marquis de los Atabillos, and a large increaſe of territory, which was to be diſtinguiſhed by the name of New Caſtile; alſo that he had obtained for Almagro the poſt of marſhal of Peru, and a government two hundred leagues in extent from north to ſouth, independent of Pizarro's, and named New Toledo.

The report of theſe matters reaching the ears of Almagro, before any authentic accounts had arrived, he ſhook off the title of Pizarro's lieutenant, and aſſumed that of governor of Cuzco, under pretence, that it was out of Pizarro's juriſdiction,

diction, which he confirmed extended only two hundred leagues from the line: in this uſurpation he was oppoſed by Pizarro's brothers, John and Gonzalo: the conſequence of which was an open rupture; and there being many partiſans on each ſide, ſeveral ſkirmiſhes enſued, and ſome lives were loſt.

The news of theſe diſſenſions ſoon reached Pizarro, whom we ſhall hereafter often diſtinguiſh by the title of the marquis, in his new town of Truxillo: who, ſeeing the immediate neceſſity of his preſence among them, without interrupting the ſettlement of his new colony, in which he left all his Spaniſh followers, committed himſelf without any attendants to the care of the Indians, who bore him on their ſhoulders in a hammock, relieving one another at proper ſtages, and travelling ſo expeditiouſly, that he entered Cuzco before there was the leaſt ſuſpicion of his approach.

Here he ſoon brought Almagro to reaſon, convinced him of his error, aſſured him, that if, on the arrival of their different commiſſions from Spain, he ſhould diſlike what was allotted to him, he

he would divide with him the government of Peru; and at the ſame time obſerved to him, that as by all accounts the territory to the ſouthward of Cuzco, called Chili, was ſtill richer in gold and ſilver than Peru, he would conſent to his marching, at the head of the beſt part of their united forces, to diſcover and poſſeſs it.

Tho' the Spaniards endeavoured to keep fair with the Indians, as their aſſiſtance was ſtill in many caſes neceſſary to them, yet they awed them with troops in different places, ſtrengthening Belalcazar at Quito; while a large body marched to keep the inhabitants about the mountains of the Andes in ſubjection; and Almagro, with a conſiderable party prepared for his ſouthern expedition, on which he ſet out about the beginning of the year 1535; the inca Manco, in hopes to bind the Spaniards thereby more ſtrongly to his friendſhip, aſſiſting him with fifteen thouſand men, under the conduct of his brother Paullu, and Villachuma the high-prieſt of the Indians, whom we find mentioned by the Spaniſh hiſtorians under the name of Villahoma.

In

In this expedition the province of Charcas was firſt diſcovered, a country barren and inhoſpitable, which, though judged by Almagro not worth keeping, has ſince proved the moſt valuable acquiſition made by the Spaniſh power in America, as it contains the rich mountains of Potoſi, which have yielded more ſilver than any other mines hitherto known.

CHAP. VI.

Almagro goes upon a progreſs to Chili; meets with vaſt hardſhips, and loſes many men: the good nature and kindneſs of the Indians; he abandons this diſcovery to uſurp the government of Cuczo; the inca raiſes two hundred thouſand men, and attacks Cuzco; John Pizarro killed; the inca flies to the mountains; Cuzco ſurrenders to Almagro, and he obtains ſeveral advantages over Pizarro's people; with whom he has a meeting, and makes a treaty, which is broken by Pizarro; who cauſes him to be put to death.

ALmagro was informed of two paſſages into Chili, but both of them almoſt impenetrable; the one being thro' a hot ſandy deſart, where his people muſt be

be prepared to encounter the ſevereſt attacks of heat and thirſt; the other, tho' much ſhorter, infinitely more inconvenient, lying over prodigious high mountains crowned with eternal ſnow, ſo craggy as ſcarce to admit of being climbed, and ſo intenſely cold, that the air was, at one ſeaſon of the year only, tolerable.

Almagro choſe the lattter, becauſe the ſhorter road, and perſiſted in his choice, in ſpite of the repreſentations of Paullu and the Indians; but he had reaſon to repent of this obſtinacy, his men being obliged to remove the ſnow with their hands, making thereby very ſhort journeys, and ſoon conſuming their proviſions; ſo that they ſuſtained inconceivable diſtreſſes, loſing above ten thouſand Indians, and a hundred and fifty Spaniards, excluſive of ſuch as loſt their fingers and toes, notwithſtanding the latter were clothed in a manner particularly warm.

After a tedious and toilſome march of more than ſix hundred miles, they arrived in Copayapu, a province lying in twenty-ſix degrees ſouth latitude, ſubject to the inca of Peru, where, through the

the influence of Paullu, they were chearfully entertained; the inhabitants not only bringing them plenty of proviſion, but alſo being informed of their value for gold, making them preſents to the amount of five hundred thouſand ducats.

Indeed the good nature and ſimplicity of the Indians appeared in nothing more than their readineſs to ſupply the Spaniards with this commodity, when they had diſcovered the eſtimation in which they held it; and ſo far did their complacency extend, that when they firſt arrived at Caxamalca, the poor Indians, obſerving their horſes champing upon their iron bits, believed that they fed upon proviſion of that ſolid nature, and therefore ſupplied their mangers with bars of gold, which they thought would be more agreeable to them, from the liking their maſters had to it.

Almagro found the authority of Paullu, whom he perſuaded, that he intended to annex Chili to the inca's dominions, of great ſervice to him in his progreſs; being by that means received in many places with great cordiality, and only oppoſed in few; ſo that he might eaſily have eſtabliſhed colonies, as was after-

afterwards done, in very advantageous ſituations, had not a ſort of infatuation centered all his views at Cuzco; where, notwithſtanding all treaty, he was determined to rule, affirming from the commiſſion, which he by this time had received from the king of Spain, that this city fell within his juriſdiction. And this unhappy determination was the final cauſe of his deſtruction.

His commiſſion was brought him by Juan de Herrada and Ruis Diaz, who joined him with recruits from Cuzco, having paſſed the Cordilleras, the road Almagro himſelf had come, with very little fatigue, in the month of November, which is the ſummer of that climate, and the only ſeaſon in which the paſſage is free.

To purſue his darling project of preſiding in Cuzco, Almagro abandoned all his views upon Chili, and began his march northward; but his army, terrified at the remembrance of what they had before ſuffered in paſſing the Cordilleras, abſolutely refuſed again to face them; wherefore he was forced to take his route through the deſart, under cover of the hills, and bordering upon the ſea-coaſt:

coaſt; here the Indians told him there was no water, but what was to be found in ſtanding pools corrupted by the ſun's heat, and even theſe eighteen, or perhaps twenty-four miles one from the other.

However, borachio's, or leather bottles, were contrived to carry their water, and parties of Indians diſpatched before the army, to drain the wells of the ſtagnated water, and leave the freſh at liberty to riſe. Theſe two expedients were of vaſt uſe to them in their march; ſo that they paſſed theſe barren tracts with much leſs difficulty than it was at firſt imagined they ſhould be able to do.

Things in the mean time fell into great confuſion in Peru: the marquis having retired to Lima, upon ſome buſineſs, the inca Manco finding there was no thoughts of reſtoring him to his crown and power, as had been promiſed by the treaty of Caxamalca, made his eſcape from Cuzco, abuſing the liberty that Ferdinand Pizarro, who was very much his friend, had given him, of going to a ſolemn feſtival held at Yucaya, four leagues from Cuzco; where he laid the ſcheme of raiſing three armies, and falling

ing

ing on Lima, Truxilla, and Cuzco, at one and the ſame time.

Theſe deſigns were intimated to Paullu, in the army of Almagro, then on their march thro' the deſart; but he being a man of ſtrict honour, refuſed to join them at any rate, or to break faith with the Spaniards: in return for which conduct Almagro ſaluted him with the title of emperor, which, he with reluctance accepted of, receiving it only that his country might not want a protector. It was mere chance that manifeſted this integrity of Paullu; for a conſpiracy having been ſet on foot in Almagro's camp, againſt his life, Phillipillo, who was deeply engaged in it, at firſt accuſed Paullu of being the principal abettor of it; but this being inconſiſtent with that prince's behaviour and conduct, Almagro ordered the interpreter to be tortured; on which he owned the generous deportment of Paullu, confeſſed that he had accuſed him wrongfully, and at the ſame time acknowledged, that the articles he had formerly trumped up againſt Atabaliba had no foundation in truth; on all which accounts he juſtly ſuffered a moſt ignominious death.

In

In the mean time Manco Capac aſſembled above two hundred thouſand men, with whom, after having cut off ſeveral Spaniards that he caught ſtragling about the mines, he laid ſiege to Cuzco, which was defended by a very ſmall force, provided with a good train of artillery, and a few horſes; however, he was often repulſed with very great ſlaughter.

The Indians having, in their firſt onſet, gained poſſeſſion of a very ſtrong fortreſs, were not driven out of it in leſs than five or ſix days; and John Pizarro, after having acted very bravely in an attack upon it, taking off his helmet to cool himſelf, was hit upon the temple by a ſtone, of which ſtroke he died in about three days, to the great regret of his party; for he was certainly the braveſt of the brothers.

When the inca heard of Almagro's approaching Cuzco, he retired; and though Almagro endeavoured to perſuade him to a treaty, he abſolutely declined it, reſolving never more to hear of terms from people who had hitherto kept none with him.

He

He alſo took a ſtep, that muſt at firſt appear very ſurpriſing, and yet the reaſons he gave in defence of it ſpoke him a politician; this was disbanding his army, and privately retiring to the mountains: and to ſuch of his officers as ſtrove to diſſuade him from it, by repreſenting, that no time could ever promiſe him more ſucceſs than this, in which Almagro and Pizarro were at open variance, he anſwered, that notwithſtanding all animoſities, they would certainly make head againſt him, ſhould he make a ſhew of oppoſing them; but it was time enough for them to return and declare his intentions, when they were ſufficiently weakened by mutual contentions.

To thoſe who conſider the hardſhips of collecting an army, this muſt ſeem a very injudicious courſe; but it ought to be remembered, that ſo implicit was the reſpect of the Indians for their ſovereign, that on the leaſt intimation of their ſervice being neceſſary to him, their voluntary aſſembling for his ſervice was as quick, as their diſperſion was ſudden.

Almagro now appeared before the walls of Cuzco, ſummoning the place to

to receive him as governor, according to the tenor of the royal commiſſion; but the magiſtrates anſwering, that this was a point of too great conſequence to be concluded upon at once, and that ſome time for deliberation was requiſite, he, ſuppoſing it to be an excuſe formed by Ferdinand Pizarro, that he might gain time, entered the city after night-fall, attacked the deputy-governor's houſe, who refuſed to ſurrender, until Almagro ordered it to be ſet on fire, which forced out both him and his brother Gonſalo, who were quickly made priſoners.

After this exploit Almagro ſummoned the magiſtracy, whom he compelled to acknowledge him as governor; at the ſame time appointing de Rojas his deputy.

The marquiſs, who was ſtill at Lima, where he had no intelligence of theſe tranſactions, fearing, as he had received no news from Cuzco, that the Indians might have come down upon his brothers, ſent thither five hundred Spaniſh horſe, commanded by Don Alonſo de Alvarado; under whom he appointed Pedro de Lerma; who, being an older

officer, never forgave the preference given to Alvarado: and the news of his diſcontent being conveyed to Almagro, they made a private agreement, in conſequence of which Lerma took the firſt opportunity of deſerting Alvarado with a large body of men; whereupon the latter was vigorouſly attacked, and after a ſtout reſiſtance, his whole party routed, and himſelf taken priſoner; an event which had never happened, had his men been obedient to his orders.

The troops which had deſerted to Almagro upon this engagement were very nobly rewarded, and marſhalled into a body, the command of which was given to Pedro de Lerma. And ſo much did it raiſe the ſpirits of the enemies of the Pizarros, that it was with great difficulty Almagro cauld preſerve the lives of the two brothers, who were his priſoners; Organez his lieutenant-general, and ſeveral other officers, inſiſting ſtrongly on their being put to death.

The news of this defeat made a very deep impreſſion upon the heart of the marquiſs; who finding himſelf not ſtrong enough to make head againſt Almagro, his whole force ſcarcely exceeding four

hundred men, reſolved to try what policy could do: wherefore he ſent deputies to Cuzco, to propoſe an accommodation; which Almagro, notwithſtanding his friends urged that Pizarro would never adhere to a treaty, received with great civility, promiſing an interview with the marquiſs, wherein commiſſioners ſhould be choſen to ſettle their reſpective boundaries. Accordingly he marched out of Cuzco, leaving therein a ſufficient garriſon, at the head of five hundred Spaniards and upwards, taking the road to Lima, and carrying Ferdinand Pizarro priſoner in his train; Gonſalo and Alvarado being left in the town under the care of De Rojas, whoſe perſon they found means to ſeize upon after Almagro's departure. Then they made their eſcape to Lima, accompanied by about ſixty men, whom they had won to their intereſt, bringing along with them the deputy-governor in fetters.

Organez and his partizans, upon the news of this eſcape, urged Almagro to revenge it by the death of his priſoner Ferdinand, a point they had laboured hard at before; but it was a piece of cruelty that he abſolutely refuſed; and

ſoon after met the marquiſs at Mala, with twelve men on each ſide to terminate their difference. It is affirmed by ſome writers, that they embraced each other in the moſt friendly manner; but according to others, the deportment of Pizarro was proud and reſerved: however, we are rather inclined to credit the former account, it being inconſiſtent with Pizarro's general character to act ſo impoliticly upon a criſis ſo important and tickliſh.

However, this conference was very ſuddenly broke off by one of Almagro's followers puſhing abruptly into his preſence, crying out, that he was betrayed; on which he took horſe and rode off, leaving matters entirely unſettled.

This alarm was occaſioned by the approach of Gonſalo with ſeven hundred men, which induced Organez alſo to advance with his troops, to repel by force the treachery he ſuſpected in agitation.

Each ſide by this rupture ſeemed ready for war, when the marquiſs again found means to perſuade Almagro to liſten to terms; and a treaty was agreed upon, and ſworn to on each ſide, whereby, among

mong many other advantages, the poſſeſſion of Cuzco was ceded to Almagro, until the deciſion of the emperor ſhould be known; in conſequence of which Ferdinand was ſet at liberty, promiſing upon oath not to act againſt Almagro; and a colony that had lately been planted by the latter at Chinca, between Cuzco and Zangalla, in fifteen degrees ſouth latitude, was removed.

The marquiſs had no ſooner obtained the coveted point of his brother's liberty, than he broke through the treaty, ſending a notary and witneſſes to ſummon Almagro to ſurrender Cuzco, and the places he had conquered, otherwiſe he muſt expect to be treated as a rebel by all the Spaniſh ſettlements.

This diſhonourable method of proceeding in Pizarro is the more inexcuſeable, as he had, by one of his own people, much about that time, received an expreſs from court, whereby each governor was enjoined, under pain of the emperor's diſpleaſure, to keep quiet poſſeſſion of ſuch places as ſhould, at the time of that meſſenger's arrival, own their reſpective juriſdiction: and in caſe of ſuppoſing themſelves injured, they

were directed to appeal to the council of the Indies; but theſe orders he thought fit to ſuppreſs.

Organez now upbraided Almagro for neglecting his advice, and he, being convinced of his error, though too late, heartily repented of it: however, he gave orders for ſecuring Cuzco, and marched with his troops to the Salinas, ſo called from a fountan of brackiſh water there ſpringing, not far from the banks of the Apurima, and a few leagues from Cuzco, where the marquiſs's army, led by Gonſalo, came up, and after an engagement of two hours continuance, entirely defeated him; and Organez, after having behaved with great gallantry, growing faint with his wounds, accepted quarter from a perſon called Fuentez, who cruelly murdered him in cold blood.

Ferdinand Pizarro was unhorſed in the heat of the engagement by Lerma, who at the ſame time upbraided him with his perjury; his armour however ſaved his life; and Lerma being afterwards born down by ſome of Pizarro's people, was treacherouſly ſtabbed, but he recovered to be butchered in a more cruel manner.

Almagro,

Almagro, who was carried into the field in a litter, being too weak to ſit a horſe, finding his forces deſeated, retired to the citadel of Cuzco, whither he was purſued by Alvarado, to whom he was ſoon obliged to ſurrender.

He was no ſooner entirely in the power of his enemies, than Ferdinand, determined to take revenge on him for his long impriſonment, and perhaps afraid of his making head againſt the Pizzarros again, for he was not only brave but well beloved, cauſed him to be accuſed of high treaſon; for having ſeized the city of Cuzco, made a ſecret treaty with the inca, encroached on the government conferred by royal appointments upon Pizarro, and fought two battles againſt the forces of his ſovereign, whereby much Chriſtian blood had been ſhed, and the progreſs of the Spaniſh arms conſiderably retarded.

For theſe offences Almagro marſhal of Peru was tried, convicted, and condemned to die, although he inſiſted on appealing to the emperor; Alvarado pleading ſtrongly that his appeal ſhould be admitted, and vainly attempting to ſoften Ferdinand's inflexibility, by repre-

ſenting the kindneſs with which Almagro had uſed them both when they were his priſoners: nay, he himſelf addreſſed Ferdinand in the moſt perſuaſive and pitiable terms; he entreated him to remember the time had been when he had ſpared his life, in oppoſition to numbers who were bent upon his deſtruction; to recollect the ſhare he had in advancing the Pizarros to their preſent glory, and ſubduing the ſurrounding nations; he prayed him to conſider, that, bowing under a weight of age and infirmities, a very ſhort time muſt level him with the grave, in the common courſe of nature; for which æra that he might be reſerved, he conjured them to take a retroſpect of his conduct, when they would find he always befriended the Pizarros, aud advanced the glory of his country.

But, alas, his entreaties were as ineffectual as the grateful interpoſition of Alvarado; for, in a very ſhort time after ſentence had been paſſed upon him, Ferdinand, under pretence that there was a deſign on foot to reſcue him from priſon, ordered him to be ſtrangled, in the ſeventy fifth, though ſome ſay only the ſixty fifth year of his age; after which the

the dead body was beheaded in a public ſquare at Cuzco, and lay moſt part of the day almoſt naked, expoſed on a ſcaffold, without any perſon's daring to bury it, leſt they ſhould thereby provoke his enemies, who were inhuman enough to pay no regard to its interment, till a few poor Indians, who had been his ſervants, towards evening, wrapped it in a coarſe ſheet, and conveyed it to church, where it was buried by the clergy under their high altar.

Almagro left behind him a natural ſon, by an Indian woman, whom, at his death, he bequeathed to the care of James Alvarado; who deſiring Pizarro to evacuate ſo much of the country as he had always allowed to be under Almagro's government, that he might take poſſeſſion of it for the youth, was haughtily anſwered, that his government was now unbounded, and he knew of no body that had a right to inſiſt on ſharing it with him, ſince Almagro was no more: Alvarado, thus repulſed, made the beſt of his way to Spain, taking with him ſuch evidences as were proper to ſupport what he had a mind to repreſent at court.

CHAP. VII.

The inca makes a ſtand againſt the Spaniards: Ferdinand Pizarro impriſoned in Spain: the mines of Potoſi, how ſhared: the marquis's cruelty to the followers of Almagro: a remarkable ſtory of twelve of them: his death concerted at Lima: he is aſſaſſinated and all his attendants: a ſummary of his character: Almagro's ſon proclaimed governor of Peru.

ABOUT this time the inca Manco ſtrove to make a puſh for driving out the invaders, and proved a conſiderable hindrance to their progreſs; for the Peruvians having, in a great meaſure, got the better of the terror impreſſed on them at firſt by fire arms and horſes, were now able to make a ſtand againſt them; nor did there want ſome inſtances of their driving their enemies before them: nay, it is certain, that above two thouſand Spaniards found it much harder to keep the ground which they had conquered, than four hundred only had found in the conqueſt of it; and,

and, it ſeems indiſputable, that had not ſome particular bodies of Indians been ſo infatuated as to adhere cloſely and faithfully to his intereſt, ſupplying him with proviſions, diſcovering all the ſtrong paſſes, and conſtantly giving him intelligence, Pizarro might have been driven from his acquiſitions in the moſt diſgraceful manner.

Meaſures of ſeverity very often rather irritate than aſſuage civil diſſenſions, and this is evidenced in the death of Almagro; after which the faction againſt the Pizarros gathered ſtrength daily; ſo that Ferdinand, who had been the chief cauſe of it, thought it beſt to retire to Spain, with all the gold that he could collect; for, from the clamours of the ſoldiery, he ſuſpected there were ſome deſigns upon his life: but Alvarado had prepared for his reception at court, where he was arreſted as ſoon as he arrived, and flung into priſon; and, notwithſtanding that Alvarado died in a ſhort time after, not without ſuſpicion of having been poiſoned, his defence was ſo very weak, that he continued more than twenty years in confinement.

The mines of Potoſi, in the province of Charcas, were the moſt valuable acquiſitions made after Almagro's death, which the marquis divided among the conquerors, having firſt founded the city of La Plata, ſo named from its ſituation.

To his brother Ferdinand, then in Spain, he aſſigned a conſiderable portion of them; and alſo to his brother Gonſalo, who was engaged in ſubduing the inca Manco.

Gonſalo, who was governor of Quito, having driven the inca to the mountains, turned his thoughts to making new diſcoveries; for which purpoſe he marched well attended to the eaſtward, in order, if poſſible, to arrive at ſome knowledge of the breadth of America; and, notwithſtanding he met with inſuperable difficulties, it was by his directions that Orellana, who was one of his officers, coaſted down the great river of the Amazons, returning from the mouth of it to the Spaniſh ſettlements, on the other ſide of the American continent, and thereby opening a paſſage to other before unknown countries, as valuable as any that hitherto had been diſcovered.

The

The proceedings of the marquis Pizarro, after Almagro was put to death, were certainly as injudicious as they were cruel; for, he not only diſcharged all officers whom he ſuſpected to have been inclined to his party, but alſo, conſcious of his injuſtice, and fearing the conſequence of their complaining againſt him, abſolutely prevented their returning to Spain: and many of them being by theſe means involved in great diſtreſs, were reduced to the neceſſity of living upon the alms of their countrymen; and twelve of them, who were all men of family, reſided in a houſe which was given them by de la Preſa, having but one cloke among them all, which they wore by turns, going abroad only one at a time, and de la Preſa dying, Pizarro turned them out of the houſe, publiſhing an edict at the ſame time; whereby he forbade any relief being adminiſtred to them, or their adherents, under ſevere penalties.

The deſpair which this order inſpired was much more deſtructive in its conſequences to Pizarro, than poſſibly their other diſtreſſes could ever have been; for finding that their miſeries could only

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be ended by theirs or the marquis's fall, they resolved upon an open attempt at revenge, which they desperately and bravely put in practice.

Altho' Lima had grown up, under the care and tuition of the marquis, yet there were many of its inhabitants who pitied the fall of Almagro, some remembring perhaps how much he had contributed to the reduction of Peru, others recollecting that tenderness he had for the soldiery, for which he was remarkably beloved; and a third party, who had risen by his friendship, wanted only a fair opportunity to retaliate his death upon those who had perpetrated it. Among these, the desperate oppressed veterans, who laboured under the disadvantages of Pizarro's edict, found refuge in repairing to Lima in small numbers, of two or three at a time, till they amounted to more than two hundred, who determined to seize the first fair opportunity of executing their design; in the prosecuting of which, however, they were for some time retarded, in hopes that a new commissioner, some of whose attendants were already arrived, dispatched from Spain, purposely to take

cognizance

cognizance of the marquis's conduct, would do them juſtice, without forcing them to the neceſſity of an inſurrection.

But, on Sunday June 26th, 1541, de Rada, one of the principal conſpirators, was alarmed with a report that they were diſcovered, and the marquis taking meaſures to have them all taken off by an ignominious death in leſs than three hours; this intelligence he haſtily communicated to ſuch of his brethren as he could moſt readily meet: on which, finding that there was no time to be loſt, they repaired, one by one, to the number of nineteen, to the houſe of young Almagro, which ſtood on one ſide of the great ſquare of Lima, whence they marched with drawn ſwords through the market-place towards the marquis's palace, crying, "Long live the king! but "let the tyrant die!" And it is remarkable, that though there were above a thouſand people in the ſquare at the ſame time, neither did they meet the ſmalleſt oppoſition, nor did Pizarro receive the leaſt intelligence of their riſing; ſo that they entered his palace very eaſily, the doors being open.

Pizarro,

Pizarro, who was ſitting with only two or three people, on the firſt news of the diſturbance, which he received by one of his pages, ordered Francis de Chaves, his lieutenant-general, to ſecure the great door, which he neglected, ſuppoſing it only ſome mutiny among the ſoldiers, that his preſence would immediately quell, on which he went down ſtairs; and inquiring wherefore were theſe commotions, was only anſwered by two or three of the conſpirators lodging their daggers in his boſom, on which he fell dead at their feet.

The marquis, hearing them in the gallery, had not time to put on his armour, but, ſeizing his ſword and buckler, defended the dining-room door for ſome time with great bravery, ſupported only by his half-brother, Don Francis de Alcantra, and two of his pages, the reſt of his company and ſervants having fled at the beginning of the inſurrection; but one of the conſpirators preſſing home, bore down and killed Don Francis; on which the reſt puſhed forward with freſh vigour, ſo that the marquis was forced to retire before them, and at laſt ſunk down fainting under his wounds, and

was

was ſoon diſpatched: his two pages alſo, having deſperately wounded ſeveral of the conſpirators, expired by his ſide, gallantly fighting in his defence to the laſt gaſp.

Thus, in his ſixty-fifth year, ended the life of Don Franciſco Pizarro, the firſt diſcoverer and conqueror of Peru; a man, the meanneſs of whoſe education appeared in his not being able to write his own name, his ſecretary always inſerting it between two ſtrokes which he drew with a pen: he was certainly endowed with many good qualities, and nature had furniſhed him with abilities as conſpicuous in the buſy operations of war, as they were illuſtrious in the gentler offices of peace; he was brave, prudent, and public-ſpirited, but unboundedly ambitious, never ſcrupling to ſacrifice his honour to his intereſt, and tarniſhing his greatneſs by acts of inhumanity that will not bear excuſe.

His ſeizing upon, and countenancing the death of Atabaliba; nay, even his breaking the ſolemn oath given to Almagro, and forwarding that unfortunate leader's deſtruction; with his unreaſonable and inhuman proſecution of the followers

lowers of the latter; were ſufficient to obſcure the glory of a character much more illuſtrious than his.

The marquis was never married, but he had many miſtreſſes; ſome of them of the inca's family: however, we do not find that he left any children behind him; and, like his competitor Almagro, he was buried very privately by his own ſervants, no officer or perſon of any rank chuſing to aſſiſt at his obſequies, leſt they ſhould thereby incur the diſpleaſure of Almagro's friends. His houſe, with that of his brothers, and two or three of his profeſſed friends, was immediately plundered; and it is ſaid, that the value of a million of crowns in gold and ſilver was found in his palace, the furniture of which was left untouched, being devoted to the uſe of young Almagro, whoſe party ſtraight proclaimed him governor of Peru; and was, the common conſequence of power, conſiderably reinforced from all quarters; while ſeveral diſorders were committed in the town, the conſtant effects of ſuch a reformation.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

Young Almagro's authority oppoſed in many places: Vaca de Caſtro arrives from Spain with a new commiſſion: his character: he is joined by Alonzo de Alvarado, Holguin, and many other commanders: Almagro's errors in conduct: Gonſalo Pizarro ſubmits to him: two of Almagro's officers quarrel, one of them murdered; the ſurvivor killed by Almagro, who refuſes all terms from de Caſtro: with whom he engages, is beaten, taken priſoner, convicted of high-treaſon, and executed, together with many of his adherents.

THE magiſtracy of Lima were obliged to own the authority of Almagro, and many other parts of the empire did the ſame; but Alonzo de Alvarado, who was in the ſouthern province of Chiachapuca, and Holguin, abſolutely refuſed it; the latter, on the firſt news of the revolution, making what haſte he could to Cuzco, where he erected the royal ſtandard, and ſent meſſengers round to the provinces of Are-

quipa,

quipa, Los Charcas, and the neighbouring places, to encourage a ſpirit of loyalty, and of oppoſition to this new government; which induced ſome perſons, who were friends to the faction, to ſlip away privately, intending to have joined their friends at Lima; but they were purſued, and ſoon brought back to their duty.

In the mean time, Holguin having received intelligence, that Almagro was marching at the head of ſix hundred men, either to take Cuzco, or give him battle; and knowing himſelf too weak to oppoſe them ſingly, determined, if poſſible, to accompliſh a junction with Alvarado, which he did thus by a feint.

He ſent out a party of horſe, which ſurpriſed ſome of Almagro's people; two of whom he ordered to be hanged by way of intimidation, and ſent the reſt back to the camp, deſiring them to tell their leader, that he would pay him ſuch viſit in a day or two, as ſhould make him rue their meeting: on which Almagro halted to receive him; and Holguin made uſe of that opportunity to turn off to another road, by which he ſoon came up with Alvarado, and in a few days joined

joined Vaca de Caſtro, the new commiſſioner, who had been ſo long expected from Spain; and beſides his being appointed to examine into the differences ſubſiſting between the generals, was authoriſed, in caſe of the marquis Pizarro's death, to aſſume the dignity and adminiſtration of governor of Peru. He had been driven by contrary winds into the bay of Gorgona, and reſolved to travel by land to Lima, on the road to which he was thus reinforced, being now ſeven hundred ſtrong.

Vaca de Caſtro was a man of ſound ſenſe, deep knowledge, firm reſolution, and unconquerable integrity: he was bred to the law; but his firm adherence to juſtice, his contempt for every proceeding that was not perfectly right, and his declining, even in the beſt cauſe, any thing that had the ſlighteſt appearance of illegality, or that looked like circumvention, prevented him from meeting the encouragement his virtue deſerved; ſo that he was very little known.

We are not informed by what chance a man of ſuch conſummate honeſty could find intereſt at court; but it is certain,

that

that the emperor had preferred him to this poſt, without adviſing with any of miniſters, becauſe he had received ſome convincing proofs of his virtue; at the ſame time that he advanced him, ſaying, that he would try how probity would thrive in an Indian ſoil, ſince it was ſo little cheriſhed at a Spaniſh bar; and certainly, ſuch a governor America never experienced, either before or ſince; his conduct proving fully the truth of the proverb, that Honeſty is the beſt policy.

He ventured upon this expedition with few followers and little money; and his ſucceſs, thus indifferently ſeconded, muſt appear ſurpriſing, until we conſider the ſituation of the Peruvian affairs, in conſequence of which a ſtrong party was to join him in their own defence.

De Caſtro received Alvarado and Pedro de Holguin with great civility, confirming them in their former commands; but, to prevent all diſputes that might ariſe from a diviſion of the chief authority, as had been the caſe between Pizarro and Almagro, he aſſumed the title of captain-general himſelf, reſolving to act in perſon every where, tho' he had not been bred in the field.

Perhaps

Perhaps no man ever behaved with a more even conduct; he never ſhewed his authority by oppreſſion, nor ſtrove to purchaſe friendſhip by flattery; to him both were equally odious: he determined with ſtrict impartiality every cauſe that came under his inſpection; nor did the party's being either Spaniſh or Indian, procure the leaſt diſtinction: to thoſe who obeyed the emperor, he behaved as a father; to the rebellious, as an expounder of the law, to the very letter of which he adhered; as a man he was compaſſionate; as a judge he was a ſtranger to pity. The people at firſt were aſtoniſhed at his deportment; but a ſhort time convinced them of his upright intention: and they were taught at length to revere what they had before dreaded.

Belalcazar came from his government of Popayan, to compliment him; moſt of the places that were not overawed by the preſence of Almagro, acknowledged his power; and Gonſalo Pizarro, being returned from his progreſs to the eaſtward, after having ſuſtained conſiderable hardſhips, and loſt near two-thirds of his men, ſent a deputation to him from Quito,

Quito, whereby he ſubmitted himſelf to his ſuperiority, and offered to march with what men he could raiſe to his aſſiſtance; but De Caſtro, who always acted upon the principles of rectitude, ſent him word, "That he accepted of his ſubmiſſion, and was ſatisfied of his fidelity to the emperor; that the hardſhips by him ſuſtained in his late progreſs required ſome reſt; on which account, the loyal party being already ſufficiently ſtrong, his preſence was diſpenſed with, and he was at liberty to apply himſelf to the care of civil matters in Quito."

Young Almagro was, in the mean time, making what head he could againſt ſuch formidable oppoſition; he was open, brave, and generous, but a little cruel; nature had bleſſed him with very great abilities, and they were tempered by the virtues of a proper education; but his youth leſſened the influence which his merits ought to have commanded, by which means he was driven into many errors; the principal of which was, his permitting the armies of Alvarado and Holguin to unite, and not fixing upon any thing poſitively, till it was almoſt too late to take any meaſures.

The

The death of De Reda, who was his general, and a man of experience as well as fidelity, contributed to diſconcert him greatly; and his afterwards dividing the commiſſion of general between Chriſtopher de Sotalo and Garcia de Alvarado laid the foundation of his ruin.

Chriſtopher and Garcia ſoon after quarreling about ſuperiority, the former having condemned a ſoldier to be hanged for theft, was oppoſed by the latter, who thence taking occaſion to differ with him, warm words enſued, and Chriſtopher was killed on the ſpot.

Almagro reſented the aſſaſſination very highly, and Garcia fearing his revenge, reſolved to be before hand with him, by murdering him at a feaſt which he feigned to prepare for his entertainment; but his intention, by ſome means getting wind, reached Almagro's ears, who pretending himſelf ſick, ſtaid at home; when Garcia fearing to loſe ſo good an opportunity, went to him to endeavour to perſuade him to come to it: at laſt Almagro, as if overcome by his perſuaſions, called for his cloke to go out; a concerted ſignal for notice had been given of Garcia's approach,

and this was prepared for his reception; at which ſix men ruſhing in at once, ſeized and ſtabbed him in ſeveral places, while Almagro with his drawn ſword ran him through the body; after which he made Balſa his general, and then reſolved to march againſt the new governor.

Vaca de Caſtro encamped at Guamanga, about fifty leagues ſouth-weſt of Cuzco, where, willing to ſpare the effuſion of Chriſtian blood, he endeavoured to perſuade Almagro to lay down his arms, but the latter inſiſted upon enjoying his father's government unmoleſted, till the deciſion of the emperor ſhould diſpoſe of it, before whom his claim to it was at that time laid by Alvarado, and oppoſed by Ferdinand Pizarro.

But whilſt theſe meſſages paſſed betwixt them, Almagro found that Vaco was under-hand endeavouring to ſeduce his people; for a Spaniard was diſcovered in his camp, diſguiſed like an Indian, with letters to Pedro di Candia, Almagro's engineer, perſuading him, by very advantageous offers, to render the artillery uſeleſs, in caſe the two armies ſhould engage. This perfidy ſo incenſed the young general, that he ordered the

ſpy

ſpy to be inſtantly hanged up; and, tho' he ſeemed inclined to terms of accommodation before, he would now liſten to none, except De Caſtro conſented to baniſh Holguin, Alvarado, De la Vaga, and many other veterans, in whom the chief ſtrength of his army conſiſted.

Neither ſide, after this period, entertained the leaſt hopes of agreement, but both marched forward to engage in the valley of Chupas.

De Caſtro's army conſiſted of ſeven hundred Spaniards and many Indians; Almagro's of only five hundred Spaniards; but then the latter had the advantage of a riſing ground, on which his artillery being poſted, commanded the whole plain: in order to avoid the effects of this diſpoſition, Carvajal, De Caſtro's ſerjeant-major, found a way of approaching the enemy ſomething nearer, under cover of a little hill; but, when that ſhelter failed them, they were laid quite open to the fire of the artillery, whoſe balls flew over their heads, doing no manner of execution: which Almagro obſerving, he advanced to Pedro de Candia, with fury in his eyes, and calling him traitor, ſtruck him through with

his ſpear; and inſtantly alighting, threw himſelf upon one of the cannon, bringing it with the weight of his body to bear upon the enemy, then ordered it to be fired; it ſwept down ſeventeen Spaniards, and was the firſt piece that did any execution.

But the heat of youth, and want of conſideration, led him into a blunder that completed his overthrow, at a time when he ſeemed to bid faireſt for ſucceſs; for, as De Caſtro approached them, ſome of Almagro's people raſhly preſſed him to lead them forward to meet him, which requeſt he conſenting to, got between the enemy and his own artillery, by that means rendering it unſerviceable.

This irretrieveable miſtake being obſerved by his ſerjeant-major Suarez, he told Almagro, "That had he kept his "poſt, as he adviſed him, De Caſtro "muſt have been inevitably ruined; "but now, ſaid he, it is plain you have "thrown away the advantage fortune "had given you, and I don't chuſe to "ſhare in a defeat ariſing from your "miſconduct;" with which words he rode off to De Caſtro's army, not without ſeveral followers.

Holguin was killed at the beginning of the fight with a muſket-ball; and Alonzo de Alvarado would have been certainly borne down by Almagro, if De Caſtro, who had, by advice of his moſt experienced officers, kept aloof with a body of thirty men, to march down, in caſe of an exigency, had not relieved him: on this occaſion he ſhewed he had a good genius for military as well as civil affairs; for never was ſuccour more properly timed; it gave new vigour to his troops, who fought with redoubled valour, and ſoon drove the enemy from the field.

Almagro, who had behaved with great courage and reſolution, finding his army intirely ſcattered, wandered away with only ſix horſemen, and took the road to Cuzco, where the very magiſtrates, whom he himſelf had inveſted with power, as ſoon as they heard of his diſcomfiture, ſeized and impriſoned his perſon.

The battle of Chupas was fought on the 16th day of September, 1542; five hundred Spaniards fell therein on both ſides; the partizans of Almagro were intirely routed, and the chiefs of them taken priſoners. De Caſtro was not backward either in praiſing or reward-

ing the intrepid behaviour of his troops; he was careful of the wounded, and ordered the dead to be decently iterred.

He afterwards went to Cuzco, where a tribunal was erected for the trial of Almagro, who was tried, condemned, and executed for high-treaſon in the beginning of 1543, and then interred in the ſame grave with his father, in much the ſame private manner.

Nor was his head alone thought ſufficient atonement for his crimes; for moſt of his chief counſellors, but particularly thoſe who had been concerned in the aſſaſſination of the marquis Pizarro, were formally tried and put to death, without favour or affection. By ſuch proceedings, De Caſtro not only extinguiſhed the rebellion, but eradicated the very ſeeds of it, while his upright intention and diſintereſted juſtice was univerſally acknowledged.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

De Caſtro's wiſe proceedings after the rebellion: he is ſuperſeded by Blaſco Nunez, who bears the title of viceroy, and, acting very injudiciouſly, is oppoſed by Gonſalo Pizarro, whoſe authority has the ſanction of the judges: the viceroy impriſoned, but eſcapes and ſuffers great hardſhips, and is at length killed in battle: the arrival of Pedro de la Gaſca with the commiſſion of preſident and very great authority: makes offers to Pizarro, in vain: Pizarro loſes ground every where: however, he fights with, and conquers Centeno.

DE Caſtro, having thus put an abſolute end to the commotions that had ſo long diſturbed Peru, now applied himſelf to the arts of peace.

He eſtabliſhed courts of juſtice, wherein right was impartially protected; he ſtrengthened the old, and encouraged the ſettlements of new colonies: he forwarded diſcoveries as much as in his power, and by ſo doing, rid himſelf of many clamorous and impertinent people.

The mines were worked, during his government, with great profit to the proprietors; and in all the great towns he erected public ſchools and colleges; at the ſame time appointing many learned men, converſant in the Indian language, to preach Chriſtianity to the people, and was himſelf the converter of Paullu, the inca's brother, of whom we have often ſpoken heretofore, who was baptized by the name of Chriſtopher; he was a man of excellent ſenſe, and true to the Spaniſh intereſt, upon the niceſt principles of honour.

De Caſtro alſo divided the lands into eccleſiaſtical juriſdictions, appointing biſhops and ſubordinate miniſters, for which he was veſted both with the papal and imperial authority. In ſhort, had the government continued in his hands, Peru had, in a very little time, been one of the beſt regulated kingdoms in the world, and more profitable to the Spaniſh crown than all its other dominions; but the cabals of the miniſtry, which could draw no advantage from a man whoſe conduct ſtanding not in need of defence, neither courted nor bribed, diſperſed the Halcyon calm; firſt by appointing certain judges, with very

very large authority, to take cognizance in public matters, who oppoſed the governor often, for oppoſition's ſake; and afterwards by ſending over Blaſco Nunez, with the title of vice-roy, to ſuperſede him, and enforce laws that were abſolutely detrimental to the advantage and psace of the kingdom.

This new officer arrived at Lima, in the year 1544, and although the inhabitants unanimouſly offered to ſupport De Caſtro in his adminiſtration, and to petition the emperor for his continuance, he would by no means avail himſelf of their friendſhip; but ſubmitted to the authority of Nunez, who, jealous of his great influence among the people, ſoon after made ſome pretence of putting him under an arreſt, and proceeded otherwiſe in a manner ſo arbitrary and diſagreeable, as to entail upon himſelf many enemies; who encouraged Gonzalo Pizarro to raiſe troops againſt him, promiſing to ſupport him in the office of procurator-general, with a power to liſt men in defence of his perſon: the judges, whom we have juſt now mentioned, acknowledging his title in oppoſition to Nunez, and ordering matters ſo as that

he was received as governor of Peru in the city of Cuzco.

Herrera and De la Vega give very different accounts of the adminiſtration of Nunez, but we ſhall rather chuſe to adhere to the relations of the latter, as he ſeems to ſpeak very cooly every where, and ſhews no rancor againſt any party, neither does he pretend to vindicate any ill action on either ſide; on the contrary, Herrera, tho' the whole, plainly manifeſts a fixed enmity to Pizarro's family; and what would induce us to credit La Vega ſtill more, is, that he lived on the ſpot at the ſame that the things happened, concerning which he writes.

So arbitrary and overbearing was the deportment of Nunez, that his forces every day fell off to Pizarro; and being a man of a warm temper, he ordered Suarez, who was one of his beſt friends, to be aſſaſſinated in his preſence, becauſe he ſuſpected him of a deſign to deſert; though he heartily repented of this raſhneſs in a little time, being fully convinced of his fidelity.

Soon after this, the judges were obliged to take him into cuſtody, and order him to be ſent under a guard on board a ſhip,

ſhip, and in ſo doing they certainly acted judiciouſly, as this was the only way to preſerve his life from the inſults of the angry populace, and the revenge of Benito de Carvajal, brother to Suarez, who had ſerved under Gonzalo: Nunez was indeed ſome time after ſet at liberty, and carried, at his own deſire, to Truxillo, by Alvares, one of the judges who had been entruſted by his brethren to carry him to Spain, and lay his proceedings before the emperor. In the mean time Gonzalo, partly by fair and partly by foul means, got himſelf generally acknowledged as governor of Peru: but left the adminiſtration of civil affairs, very wiſely to the judges, applying himſelf entirely to the care of regulating his army.

Having ſettled things in ſuch a manner, that no body ſeemed either willing or able to diſpute his authority, he reſolved on ſending two of his partizans to Spain in the ſame ſhip with Vaco de Caſtro, to defend his proceedings; but De Caſtro fearing ſome ill uſage from them, prevailed on the crew to quit the harbour and ſteer for Panama, before Pizarro's diſpatches were ready.

This retreat incenſed Pizárro extremely: he accuſed ſeveral people who had been very ſerviceable to him, of conniving at De Caſtro's eſcape; and not only arbitrarily impriſoned, but cruelly put many of them to death; and though he ſhifted the blame as much as he could upon Carvajal, yet, as he did not puniſh him in the leaſt, this was looked on as a pretence.

In the mean time, the viceroy and judge Alvarez arrived at Tumbaz, where he publiſhed a manifeſto, with an account of Pizarro's rebellion, requeſting the aſſiſtance of all loyal ſubjects againſt him; and, in reality, diſplaying in theſe circumſtances, much greater abilities than it was poſſible to have ſuſpected him maſter of in proſperity; but the ill character he had before acquired, frighted even Pizarro's enemies from joining him; ſo that he was obliged to retire on the new governor's approach, who purſued and hunted him over the rugged mountains of Quito, where he often experienced very great diſtreſs, being reduced to the neceſſity of feeding on horſe-fleſh, or ſuch wild herbs and vegetables as the inhoſpitable ſoil afforded.

Nunez

Nunez having evaded him thus for more than a year, during which time great cruelties were committed on each ſide, was at length betray'd into an engagement near Quito, on the 19th of January 1546, in which his party was totally routed, and himſelf, gallantly fighting, knocked down, his head being, by the regengeful Suarez's order, ſtruck off and ſet upon a pole; an indignity which Pizarro reſented extremely, ordering it to be taken down, as ſoon as ever he was informed of it, to be honourably interred with the body.

The accounts of theſe dangerous diviſions gave great uneaſineſs to the court of Spain, and induced the emperor to ſend over Pedro de la Gaſca, with the title of preſident of the royal court of Peru, and power equal to that of a ſovereign prince; his inſtructions impowered him to make or to repeal laws, to pardon or puniſh treaſon, as he ſhould judge beſt for the honour of God, and ſervice of his prince. In ſhort, he was permitted to exerciſe the ſame authority with reſpect to perſons, and things as if he was the king in perſon.

Pedro

Pedro de la Gaſca was a prieſt, and a brother of the inquiſition, but a man of ſtrict reſolution, unſhaken honeſty, and unalterable courage, mild, affable, penetrating, and ſagacious; beſides, he acted entirely upon diſintereſted principles. His commiſſion was dated at Vienna, in the beginning of the year 1546, and he arrived at Panama about the middle of July, in the ſame year, where he was received with great reſpect, his agreeable and judicious deportment procuring him many friends; and adding ſome conſiderable perſons to the royal party, among whom was Hinojoca, who commanded the fleet as admiral under Pizarro; but his revolt was, by agreement, to be kept a profound ſecret, till ſuch time as it was known in what manner Pizzarro would behave to the meſſenger, who Gaſca ſent to him with one letter from the emperor, and another from himſelf.

Theſe letters were carried by a perſon named Paniagua, whom Pizarro received very reſpectfully; ſubmitting to an aſſembly of his principal officers his inſtructions, wherein, was offered a general amneſty to all who would acknowledge

ledge the preſident's authority, and a proper proviſion promiſed to be made for Pizarro and his family, in conſideration of their ſervices, without any remembrance of his rebellion. Carvajal declared warmly for accepting theſe terms, and was joined by moderate people; but ſeveral perſons, who were of a ſtirring, uneaſy diſpoſition, prevailed with Pizarro to anſwer, by ſending a ſhort defence of his conduct, and requiring to be confirmed in the government of Peru; to which, as heir to his brother, who had conquered the country, as well as by precedent, in all caſes of the like nature, he had an undoubted right.

Paniagua had ſecret orders to grant this requeſt to Pizarro, in caſe he found his party very ſtrong; but having been privately viſited by moſt of his principal people, who aſſured him that they would all join the royal ſtandard, as ſoon as ever the preſident arrived in Peru, Paniagua ſuppreſſed theſe orders, ſeeing he might ſucceed without declaring them, tho' De la Vega informs us, he often afterwards repented that he had acted in this manner; and not without reaſon, as a great many lives might have been preſerved.

About this time, the news of the defection of Hinojosa, and several other persons in whom he had reposed great confidence, reached Pizarro's ears; but what gave him most uneasiness was, the desertion of two of his people, whom he had sent with a defence of his conduct into Spain.

The city of Cuzco was soon after surprised by the following stratagem. Centeno, an officer who had fought very bravely under the viceroy Nunez, after whose defeat he took refuge in the mountains, once more made his appearance, declaring himself firmly attached to the emperor; and was joined by about eighty horsemen, with whom he determined to surprise that city, it being garrisoned by three hundred men, under the command of De Robles, a man faithful to the interest of Pizarro.

For this purpose, as soon as night fell, they ordered some Indians to drive their mules and other beasts of burthen with a great noise, and matches lighted at the pummel of each saddle, up a certain street; which alarmed the garrison, and the soldiers marched out to that quarter, wherein was the confusion; while

while Centeno and his people entered the town on the contrary ſide, attacked them in the rear, and put them in ſuch diſorder, that they immediately fled, leaving him in poſſeſſion of it, and many of them, who owed no good will either to Pizarro or De Robles, returning to join him, on finding out what was the true ſtate of the caſe, De Robles himſelf was made priſoner, being diſcovered to have taken refuge in a convent, and behaved ſo inſolently to Centeno, that he ordered him to be beheaded.

The preſident was, by this time, arrived in the province of Quito, publiſhing every where a general amneſty, and a repeal of the laws that had been ſo irkſome to the people; ſome of them having exempted, nay forbid, under ſevere penalties, the Indians from working in the mines, or fiſhing for pearl; thus, by a miſtaken clemency, preventing the getting that treaſure which made Peru ſo valuable an acquiſition; alſo commanding that no Indian ſervant ſhould be kept on any account whatever by any of the king's officers, and many of theſe poor people who had fallen into the hands of tender humane maſters, lamented at being

being obliged to leave them, as if they had been torn from a parent's arms; others of theſe laws appointing that the eſtates of all perſons ſhould, on their death, fall to the crown, at whoſe option it was to appoint a certain maintenance for their wives and children. There were ſeveral others, to the amount of forty four, equally impolitic, unwiſe, and deſtructive to the intereſt of the country.

Centeno's army was now increaſed by reinforcements from Arequipa, La Plata, and other places, to above a thouſand men; and the preſident was daily growing ſtronger, ſo that he reſolved to march towards Lima, which city had declared in his favour a day or two after Pizarro had left it, who, bent his courſe towards Arequipa; but finding things go every where againſt him, and not being much above four hundred ſtrong, when joined by Acoſta with fifty horſe, he turned off to the ſouthward, intending to have eſtabliſhed a colony on the eaſt-ſide of the mountains of Potoſi, the ſilver mines of which had been juſt then diſcovered; and in caſe of meeting with interruption there, his deſign was to have retreated farther ſouth, and made a ſettlement in Chili.

But

But Centeno lying in the way, Pizarro having tried by fair means, to engage him on his ſide to no purpoſe, determined to force a paſſage through his camp; on which Acoſta made an attack the night before the battle, in hopes to have ſurprized Centeno; but he was diſcovered, and retired without any loſs.

Centeno's force conſiſting of between one thouſand and twelve hundred men, and Pizarro's of not quite five hundred, on the 20th of October, 1547, both armies drew up in ſight of each other: but the courage and conduct of Carvajal ſtood in the place of numbers; he gave orders that his people ſhould not move from the poſt in which he had fixed them, but reſerve their fire till the enemy were cloſe upon them; he alſo armed every man with two muſkets, for many who had deſerted, had left their arms behind them; and his orders were ſo well obeyed, that Centeno was intirely routed, though Pizarro's cavalry had at firſt been cloſely puſhed, and he himſelf forced to take ſhelter with his infantry.

Centeno, who was carried to the field in a litter, was by the defeat intirely cured of his malady, and mounting a horſe, endeavoured

deavoured to perſuade his people to rally, but in vain; that raſh ſpirit that had ſpurred them on to battle, without waiting the command of the general, or keeping their ranks, was ſo totally changed into fear and confuſion, that they paid no attention to his remonſtrances, and he was obliged to march, by the privateſt roads poſſible, almoſt in deſpair, to Lima.

CHAP. X.

Gonſalo enters Cuzco; the preſident is viſited by Valdivia and many other officers; Pizarro ruins himſelf by rejecting Carvajal's advice, and is abandoned by all his people, on the meeting of both armies; ſurrenders himſelf, and behaves with great ſpirit before the preſident; he is condemned for rebelling againſt the emperor, and beheaded; many of his officers are put to death; the preſident perplexed about the diviſion of the lands, retires to Spain.

PIzarro's troops, conſiderably reinforced by this victory, having been joined by numbers of the vanquiſhed, marched to take poſſeſſion of Cuzco, whence

whence detached parties were ſent out to ſcour the country, the commanders of which were guilty of many barbarities.

However, this defeat did not much affect the preſident's army, which increaſed daily, Centeno having made a ſhift to come up with him, and he alſo being joined by Belalcazar, and many other good officers, together with Pedro de Valdivia, with about twelve horſe.

This laſt mentioned gentleman had been appointed governor of Chili; but finding his force much too ſmall to maintain him in his poſt, had taken ſhipping at St. Jago for Lima, with a conſiderable quantity of treaſure, which he intended to have diſpoſed of, in raiſing recruits: but, finding how things were ſituated on his arrival at Lima, he joined the preſident directly, who received this valuable ſecond in the moſt reſpectful manner. His coming was undoubtedly a conſiderable advantage, for there was not a better ſoldier at that time in America; and ſuch intrepidity and foreſight as he poſſeſſed, were only fit to match with Carvajal.

Thus reinforced, Gaſca found himſelf at the head of fifteen hundred men, wherewith

wherewith he reſolved to march in ſearch of Pizarro, who, fluſhed with ſucceſs, was determined to meet him.

This reſolution was quite contrary to the advice of the experienced Carvajal, who aſſured him that ſuch a ſtep would be their intire ruin; he wiſely obſerving that the preſident's army was much ſuperior to his; that he was certain too of his men's fidelity, whereas, Pizarro might be certain that three hundred men, who had deſerted from Centeno, after the laſt engagement, would, on the leaſt appearance of advantage, return to their old maſter; he alſo made it evident, that the moſt judicious ſtep he could take, would be to harraſs the preſident's army, by retiring before him to the ſouthward, and diſtreſſing him by carrying off all the proviſions in every place as he went; ſo that in following him, he muſt be certain to encounter many difficulties: and he promiſed to ſhew him a place out of which it would be impoſſible to force him, at the ſame time that he could awe the whole country, and ſtarve his antagoniſt.

But Pizarro, who had ſome ill-grounded diffidence of Carvajal, as if bent upon his

his own ruin, was deaf to all his arguments; tho' the latter offered, with two hundred foot and fifty horſe, to prevent the enemy from paſſing the river at Apurimac; nay undertook abſolutely to rout them. His offer was ſlighted, and the command conferred upon Acoſta, who, neither having ſufficient foreſight nor diligence, allowed the enemy to ſeize upon the paſs, without any reſiſtance.

On the top of a hill near Apurimac, was a ſpring of freſh water, the only one within many miles; near which it was Carvajal's ſcheme to have lain in ambuſh, and when the ſoldiers were running, without order, to drink, after croſſing the river, which would certainly be the caſe, as there could be no ſuſpicion of an enemy, then it was his deſign to have fallen ſuddenly upon, and drove them down to the river again, when their confuſion and diſorder would have completed their rout.

Had Pizarro complied with any of theſe directions, he had retrieved his own affairs, and deſtroyed all Gaſca's deſigns: but they were given in vain; every opportunity of ſtraitning the preſident was loſt, and on the 9th of April, 1548, both armies

armies were drawn up in battle-array, in ſight of each other, and Carvajal obſerving the order of the preſident's forces, was heard to ſay, Valdivia muſt certainly be with Gaſca, for no man in Peru could diſpoſe of that army to ſuch advantage but he.

The victory was not long in diſpute, Pizarro's people going over in bodies to the enemy; Garcelaſſo de la Vega, father to the hiſtorian, was the firſt who ſhewed them the way; the whole right wing followed him, and ſeveral ſquadrons of horſe went after, while Carvajal, who, diſguſted at Pizarro's perveſeneſs, had refuſed all command, and acted only as a private man, began to ſing aloud ſome part of an old ballad, not ill adapted to the preſent circumſtances.

The remainder of his men, ſeeing themſelves thus abandoned, flung down their arms and fled; ſo that Pizarro was, in a very ſhort time, left with only a few officers, and turning to Acoſta ſaid, calmly, "Well, brother John, what are "we to do?" "Why, die like Ro-"mans," anſwered he. "No," replied Pizarro, "let us rather fall like "Chriſtians.

Having

Having ſaid thus, they moved on towards Gaſca's army, where Pizarro ſurrendered himſelf to Pedro de Villavincentio, who thanked him for the honour he had conferred on him by ſo doing, and with great politeneſs refuſed to take his ſword and dagger from him, which he offered, having no other arms. Centeno met him as he was going to appear before the preſident, and expreſſed great feeling at his circumſtances; to which he chearfully anſwered, "This day Centeno has completed my fall; to morrow, perhaps, you yourſelves will have reaſon to lament it."

He behaved before Gaſca, who accuſed him of rebelling againſt the emperor, and murdering Nunez, with great firmneſs; he ſaid he had not aſſumed the government till conferred upon him by the power of the judges, though it was his, in right of the commiſſion granted by the emperor to his brother and his heirs; that Nunez had been killed in battle, and he had been forced to oppoſe him for the preſervation of the public peace.

And in reply to the preſident's accuſing him of ingratitude to the emperor,

who had raiſed him from nothing, he anſwered, that no body could deny his being a man of family, the conſtituents of which owed their elevation intirely to their own bravery; and had they erred in their conduct, which he denied, yet he imagined the ſervices they had done the crown ſhould have pleaded in their behalf; he concluded with bidding the governor look round him: "then, ſays he, "you will recollect that this whole "country was annexed to the Spaniſh "throne by the valour of my brother: "I too contributed; and do I, who have "been an aſſiſtant, and am the only re-"preſentative of that brother, aſk any "thing unreaſonable, when I inſiſt up-"on being made its governor; I dare "not tax the emperor with injuſtice, "but I cannot help ſaying, if he ſaw my "ſituation, if he was allowed to do it "with impartial eyes, inſtead of con-"ſigning me to bondage, and branding "me with the name of rebel, he would "give me a ſtill larger reward than that "for which I have been forced to con-"tend."

This bold defence of himſelf was not pleaſing to Gaſca, who ordered him back into

into the cuſtody of Centeno, by whom he was treated with the ſame reſpect as if he had been maſter of the greateſt power.

Carvajal endeavouring to make his eſcape from the field, was taken by ſome people who ſaw him fall from his horſe, endeavouring to croſs a brook; and had not Valdivia and Centeno timely come up, the latter of whom took him under his care, he had been in danger of being very ill uſed.

The preſident ſoon after held a council of war upon his ſituation, in which, after much debate, Alonzo de Alvarado and Chianca were appointed to ſit as judges upon Pizarro and his followers, it being thought the moſt judicious courſe to determine their fate as ſpeedily as poſſible; leſt any change in their favour ſhould throw matters out of their preſent channel.

Accordingly Pizarro, old Carvajal, Acaſto, and Guevara, were tried, convicted, and condemned to be hanged; a ſentence which was executed inſtantaneouſly upon them all, except Pizarro, whoſe ſentence was changed to decollation, in conſideration of the noble title of

his brother; in purſuance, to which on the following day he loſt his head upon a block, in the forty-ſecond year of his age.

Thus fell Gonzalo Pizarro, a man who certainly merited a better fate; and I muſt declare it my opinion, that he richly deſerved the poſt in ſtruggling for which he loſt his life, as well from his family-pretenſions as his own private virtues and his very great abilities. The houſes of Pizarro both at Cuzco and Lima were razed to the ground, and the ſpots on which they ſtood ſown with ſalt; a marble pillar was alſo erected, on which his crimes were inſcribed, and his head, together with that of Carvajal, was ſet up in the market-place of Lima: and ſeveral of his officers and adherents were publicly executed in many other places; after which ſacrifices, the preſident having proclaimed a general pardon, retired to Cuzco, where he reſted for ſome time, amidſt the rejoicings of his followers. But even now, when he thought, by the ſuppreſſion of the rebels, all his troubles were at an end, he found them only beginning; for when he came to diſtribute the lands, there was no ſuch thing as ſatisfying

tisfying the demands of the people in general, even the meaneſt ſoldier expecting to be made lord of a manor.

At length, wearied out with their ſolicitations, he reſolved to eſcape from them at once; for which reaſon he privately withdrew to Lima, and thence made the beſt of his way to Panama, there intending to embark for Spain, and carrying with him near two millions for the emperor's uſe, and not a ducat for himſelf; ſo that, I fancy, it will be found very hard to match him and Vaſco de Caſtro, both of whom acted upon principles very different from the bulk of mankind, promoting the welfare of the people, and improving the revenues of the crown, without any regard to their own private intereſt. It is to be remarked, that they were neither courtiers nor noblemen.

At Panama, Gaſca was very near loſing all the treaſure he had amaſſed for the emperor, together with his own life, by an unexpected inſurrection, which he quelled by his valour and prudence. Then he embarked for Spain, at Nombre de Dios, in the year 1550, and the emperor was ſo well pleaſed with his

conduct, that he gave him the biſhopric of Siguença, a populous city in Old Caſtile, the income of which is reckoned at this day worth four hundred thouſand ducats per year; in which place he died in 1567, and was buried in the pariſh-chappel of Magdalene of Valadolid, which he had built and endowed himſelf.

The

The VOYAGES of the ſeveral firſt ADVENTURERS, particularly of FERDINAND DE SOTO, for the Diſcovery of FLORIDA, 1539.

FLORIDA, which is on the continent of America, was firſt diſcovered by Sebaſtian Cabot, about the beginning of the ſixteenth century; but had no name; nor was it, among the various nations then daily found out, taken much notice of, till the expedition of John Ponce de Leon, who being ſuperſeded in his government of Porto Rico, where he had made a plentiful fortune, fitted out three ſhips well ſtored, and ſtoutly manned, with a view partly to profit, and partly to reputation, by making new diſcoveries.

Having made a large circuit, and paſs'd ſeveral points of land, he was tempted to come to anchor in ſight of a country that preſented the moſt alluring landſcape he had ever ſeen; to which he gave the name of Florida, out of complimet to Eaſter,

called by the Spaniards Paſcua Florida, from its being the fineſt flower-ſeaſon, he having diſcovered this territory on Eaſter-Sunday, 1512.

Having coaſted along a good while, in ſearch of a convenient harbour, he went on ſhore April the 8th, in hopes to have made ſome acquaintance with the natives, ſeveral of whom were drawn up at a diſtance, watching an opportunity to drive the Spaniards from their boat; one of whom receiving a ſevere blow on the head, the fight became warm, and two others were dangerouſly wounded, tho' the natives received no damage. Leon, having with ſome pains, collected his men, and ſailed to a river which they named Rio de la Cruz, or the river of the Holy Croſs, he took in wood and water; but was ſeverely handled by the Indians: ſo that he thought it would be vain to attempt making any ſettlement in this place, though, with half his compliment of men, a perſon of Cortes's abilities would have ſubdued the better part of America; and indeed nothing contributed more to his failure in an eſtabliſhment at this place, than a ridiculous notion wherewith he had been inſpired, of there being ſomewhere,

where, in that neighbourhood, a fountain endued with the virtues of Medea's kettle, in which an immerſion reſtored decrepit old age to luſty youth; however, having miſpent a great deal of time here, and among the Bahama Iſlands, in ſearch of this ideal curioſity, he returned to Spain, where, making a great buſtle about the merits of his expedition, he was generouſly rewarded by the court; though the only advantage that accrued from his induſtry, was diſcovering a ſhort way through the bay of Mexico to Spain, without going round by the iſland of Cuba; the courſe of all ſhips before that time.

In 1517, Francis de Cordova put in upon this coaſt to wood and water, but ſeveral of his men were cut off by the inhabitants, and he himſelf was ſo dangerouſly wounded, that he died a few days after his return to Cuba.

Vaſquez de Ayllon made an expedition thither ſome time after, but his plan of operations was ſo badly laid, that the Indians cut off above two hundred of his men, and drove the reſt off the coaſt; nay, ſome have aſſerted, that he himſelf was killed here; nor is it very unlikely, ſince

we have no certain accounts of him after that time.

Pamphilo de Narvaez, of whoſe connection with, and confinement by Cortes, we have already ſpoken in the conqueſt of Mexico, being at length reſtored to his liberty, was the next who ſet out upon diſcoveries in Florida, carrying with him five ſhips, on board of which were ſix hundred men and eighty horſe: the chief perſons attending him, were Alvaro Punez, commonly called Capo di Vava, in quality of treaſurer, Agozino as a provoſt marſhal, Alonzo Euriquez as auditor, and Alonzo de Solis, factor for the king, together with father Giovanni, a franciſcan, and four other friars of the ſame order.

After two or three very violent ſtorms, wherein they loſt above two hundred of their men and half their horſes, they arrived on the coaſt of Florida, April the 12th, 1528, and the auditor went aſhore on a ſmall iſland, the inhabitants of which gave him ſome deer ſkins and a few fiſhes: the day following, Narvaez took with him as many men as the boats could hold, and landed on the main land of Florida, at a little village, which was abandoned by the natives; the houſes whereof were

of

of different ſizes, ſome very ſmall, and others large enough to contain more than three hundred people. He firſt took formal poſſeſſion of the place for the king of Spain, diſpatched the brigantine in ſearch of a ſafe harbour for the ſhips, landed the remainder of his horſes, and then marched northward with forty foot and ſix horſemen. They made four Indians priſoners, when they had travelled about four leagues; who by ſigns promiſed to ſhew them where to get maiz, of which they had hitherto ſeen none; and accordingly they brought them to a village, in the neighbourhood of which there was maiz, but it was not yet ripe; and afterwards to another where there were ſome webs of cloth, and a ſmall quantity of gold, which they gave them to underſtand they had from a country called Apalachen, lying to the north-weſt of them: a little farther on, they found a large field of maiz fit to be cut; and here they reſted themſelves two days.

It being now determined to march over land in ſearch of Apalachen, from whence the gold they had ſeen was brought; Narvaez choſe out three hundred men, forty of whom were mounted for this expedi-

tion; giving firſt to each man two pounds of biſcuit, and half a pound of pork; on which they lived for fifteen days, meeting neither houſe, inhabitants, nor eatables, except dates, which were very acceptable. Their progreſs was now ſtopped by a river, which ran with exceſſive fury; however, they encamped upon the banks of it about a day, when its rage ſubſiding, they paſſed it upon rafts, not without great difficulty and peril. Here they found two hundred Indians drawn up armed, as it were to oppoſe them; who being convinced that their intentions were peaceable, they were furniſhed wtih maiz, and then were directed onward to Apalachen.

June the 7th, they were met by a cacique covered with a painted deer ſkin, and riding on the neck of one of his ſervants; he was eſcorted by a body of muſicians playing upon cane flutes, and ſpent above an hour with Pamphilo, in which time he endeavoured to tell him, that the people of Apalachen were his enemies; and preſented him the deers ſkin that he wore, in return for ſome hawks bells, and other trifles given him by the Spaniards. After leaving him, they

they came to a river on which they did not dare to venture even with rafts; one of their men who, bolder than the reſt, endeavoured to ſwim his horſe over, being drowned, together with his beaſt, in their ſight, they found the body of the horſe, of which they made a very hearty ſupper, and then paſſed the river in a canoe made for that purpoſe.

Having ſurpriſed and ſeized four Indians to conduct them, they came in ſight of Apalachen June the 26th, after traverſing huge foreſts, where the trees grew ſo thick as ſcarcely to admit a paſſage, and mountains that ſeemed, with giant-like ambition, to reach at heaven: never was proſpect more agreeable than that of Apalachen was to theſe people, whom hunger and fatigue had worn to ſkeletons; moſt of them being ready to faint under their arms, which had galled their ſhoulders, and were very uneaſy to them.

The town of Apalachen was made up of forty low mud cabbins, ſituated on a ſandy ground, and ſurrounded by groves of pine, cedar, elm, palm, and walnut-trees; maiz they found here in plenty, and ſaw rabbits, bears, lions, &c. geeſe, ducks, black-birds, falcons of ſeveral ſorts,

and

and ſeveral other kinds of beaſts and birds of prey.

The treaſurer was ſent with fifty foot and nine horſe to reconnoitre the place, in which he found only women and children, with ſome deer ſkins, a few thread garments of little value, and ſome maiz, as alſo mills to grind it; the men were retired from the town in arms, and in a little time made an attack upon the Spaniards, who quickly repulſed them with the loſs of one horſe, which was ſhot thro' with arrows. However, they came ſhortly after in a very peaceable manner, entreating to have their wives and children reſtored to them, which requeſt was immediately granted; but one of their caciques being detained by Narvaez, incenſed them ſo much, they once more came down in a hoſtile manner, but were ſo vigorouſly received, that they ſoon fled with precipitation, and took ſhelter among the ſtanding corn, leaving one man dead behind them.

The Spaniards reſted here twenty-five days, during which, parties went out to view the country on all ſides, and indeed it promiſed very indifferently, preſenting to the eyes nothing but inacceſſible mountains,

tains, craggy rocks, impenetrable foreſts, inhoſpitable deſarts, and impaſſable lakes. This ſeemed to be the only inhabited ſpot in the whole country, and they underſtood as much from the cacique, whom they kept priſoner, he informing them, that a great way to ſouth was the ſea, on the borders of which were a people called Aute; who were his friends, and had plenty of Indian corn.

Their expectations, with reſpect to gold, being not in the leaſt anſwered, it was reſolved to proceed for Aute, which they accordingly did; and after a very troubleſome journey, and being daily annoyed by the natives, they arrived there in nine days, but the people had burned their houſes, and were all fled; however, they found ſome maiz, gourds, and other vegetables, which gave them great refreſhment.

The place not anſwering their wiſhes in any reſpect, it was determined to try to build themſelves boats, and embark upon the river which they ſaw, and called Magdalena, it being very large, and they hoping that it might bring them back to that part of the coaſt of Florida which borders on the gulph of Mexico. For this

this purpoſe, they with great difficulty contrived five large barks, each twenty two cubits long; one of their men, who had a ready invention, having erected a forge, and prepared a ſort of bellows to blow it, with beaſts ſkins and a pipe of wood, made a ſhift to form ſuch iron-work as they wanted out of their croſs-bows, ſpurs, ſome of their arms, &c. the chinks were ſtopped up with palmeto leaves and bark, their rigging was twiſted horſe-hair, and their ſails were their ſhirts; of the ſabine-wood they made oars, and the gum that diſtilled from the pine-tree ſerved them for pitch; from the legs of the dead horſes they flayed the ſkin as intire as poſſible, and theſe ſewed tightly were uſed to contain their water, inſtead of boracchios.

September the 22d, they embarked on board theſe veſſels, and committed themſelves to the mercy of the waves, not one of them knowing any thing of navigation; having loſt in twenty days, forty men by ſickneſs and fatigue, beſides ten that were killed by the Indians, in ſight of their comrades, who could not do any thing for their reſcue; ſo very wretched

was

wretched was their plight. At the end of ſeven days, they diſcovered five canoes full of Indians, who ran aſhore on an iſland, where Narvaez and his people followed them, and landing found ſome eggs and dryed thornbacks, which were a welcome aſſiſtance. Leaving this iſland and taking the canoes with them, they ſailed forward, till their water failing, they were reduced to extreme neceſſity, and were forced to drink the ſea-water, whereby five of their men were killed; but perceiving ſome inhabitants on a point of land which they weathered, they ventured to go on ſhore, where they found little houſes well built and lined with matting, and freſh water ſtanding in pots at the doors, together with fiſh ready dreſt, on which they made a delicious meal: the cacique here treated them with great kindneſs; but at night the Indians fell upon them, carried away the cacique, was reſcued by his own people, and wounded Narvaez with a ſtone in the head.

After this adventure, they met with ſome Indians, who offered to ſhew them freſh water, and leaving hoſtages, took with them three Chriſtians for that purpoſe, who were never after heard of; the hoſtages

hoſtages endeavouring privately to eſcape, and their brethren afterwards ſtriving ineffectually to recover them by force; however, they at laſt came to a river, where, to their vaſt joy, they found the ſtream freſh, but there being no wood, they once more truſted to the current, each man being ſtinted to a handful of raw maiz a day.

They were now attacked by a violent ſtorm, and their little fleet ſcattered, at which time it was imagined Pamphilo Narvaez was loſt; he having never been heard of after. The boat in which was Alvaro Nunez, was drove upon an iſland, where the inhabitants, who were of a gigantic ſtature, relieved and treated them with vaſt humanity; ſo that the Spaniards having recruited their ſtrength, and made proviſion of fiſh, wood, water, and ſome vegetables, ſtripped themſelves naked to launch their boat, which having done, put all their things on board, and laſtly embarked themſelves; a ſudden wave turned her topſy-turvy, and three men whom ſhe ſtruck at the ſame time ſunk to the bottom and were drowned: Alvaro and the reſt made a ſhift to read the land, but quite naked, having loſt their cloaths and

and every neceſſary by that laſt accident; ſo that they were reduced to the extremeſt miſery.

Their appearance was ſo wretched, that the Indians could ſcarcely know them again; but they ſoon brought them more proviſion, and ſat down by them, lamenting their misfortune; after which they carried them on their ſhoulders to their places of reſidence, ſtopping very often by the way, to warm them at great fires, which they had prepared for that purpoſe at convenient diſtances: here they found the company of one of their barks, at which they were exceedingly rejoiced, and as ſhe was in good order prepared to trim for another voyage; but, when they were upon the point of embarking, ſhe was loſt in a violent gale of wind: about this time their number was reduced from eighty to fifteen, ſo much were they diminiſhed by famine and other hardſhips.

The men of this country make a hole quite thro' one of their paps, and ſome thro' both; in which they carry a ſmall piece of cane, about three ſpans long; and they alſo hang another piece to their nether lip, which is likewiſe bored thro'. The women are hard drudges: they generally

nerally inhabit this iſland from October to the end of February, and their food is fiſh, and a certain pleaſant root that grows about a foot under water; after this, the roots beginning to fail, they remove their quarters elſewhere.

Alvaro ſtaid with theſe humane people till they were about to paſs over to the continent, when they took him and his followers with them; becauſe, ſay both Herrera and Ramuſio, in their accounts of theſe matters, he had cured many of their ſick by the ſign of the croſs; and if this was the caſe, we muſt ſuppoſe the pagan Indians to have had more faith than the Chriſtian Spaniards; ſince with them it was much more efficacious: and yet it is certain, that Alvaro and two of his companions made oath, in the moſt ſolemn manner, at Michaels in the South-ſea, that, during ſix years, in which they had travelled among the wild Indians, they were treated civilly on the account of the cures performed by them with the ſign of the croſs.

Alvaro and his two remaining companions were rewarded for the many cures they performed with a fruit, which ſerves the people principally for ſuſtenance; it

is

is called tune, about the ſize of an egg, of a good taſte, and the colour red and black intermixed; which they not only eat freſh, ſqueezing out the liquor, which is an excellent drink, but alſo cut them open and ſtring them, hanging them up to dry like figs.

The Spaniards gave this place the name of Mal Hado, or Ill Luck; the people, who are divided into many nations of different names, are very fond of their children, lamenting their loſs when they die, for a year, in a very ſolemn melancholy manner; but they are very different with reſpect to the death of their aged, eſpecially ſuch as are paſt their labour, ſaying it was time that they ſhould go, and not ſtay to devour the ſuſtenance from ſtrong young people who earned it, which they were unable to do.

Thoſe that have children by their wives never forſake them; neither do they bed with them during the time they know them to be with child: if they chance to quarrel, they cudgel one another heartily; but never uſe their bows and arrows but againſt the common enemy, and even with them they fight no longer than while they have arrows to ſhoot with; when

theſe are waſted, tho' they ſhould have infinitely the advantage, they turn their backs, and walk off very quietly; nor are their wounds, though quite through the body, mortal; except in the heart or bowels. It is remarkable, they will touch nothing after a woman while under the menſtrual evacuation; ſo that, during that time, ſhe muſt eat by herſelf.

When Alvaro and his companions were about to quit the people to whom theſe cuſtoms were familiar, they deſired to be carried towards the place of the ſun's ſetting; which was refuſed them, becauſe it was affirmed, the regions lying that way were uninhabited; but, inſiſting upon it, and expreſſing ſome anger at being contradicted, the poor Indians, who feared that knowledge that had done ſuch ſignal cures among them, might, if longer oppoſed, do them ſpecial harm, ſoon conſented to their requeſt, and offered to conduct them.

They paſſed through many different territories for upwards of five days, during which they had ſometimes proviſion, ſometimes none; feeding one day upon kine and veniſon, another upon powdered ſtraw, till at length they came to a nation where

where the people appeared to be a little civilized; having good thatched houſes, plenty of maiz, pulſe, and gourds, with good ſkins, principally thoſe of deer, bombaſine, cotton, coral, torquoiſes, and emeralds ſhaped like arrow-heads; of all which the Spaniards partook.

Some way farther, they fell in with a tribe of people who were very brutal, and ſeemed to have but little underſtanding; however, they paid the Spaniards great reſpect, ſuppoſing them deſcended from heaven, becauſe they reſembled certain people, who, they ſaid, had viſited their land not long before, with horſes, lances, and ſwords, whom they ſuppoſed to be children of the ſun, and who went thence to ſea.

Shortly after, they had more news of the Chriſtians, who had driven the inhabitants of ſome places, where they chanced to come, up to the mountains, and behaved in a very cruel manner; and hence they judged that they were near the South-ſea; which opinion was confirmed by Diego de Acaraz, a Spaniard, whom they ſoon after met upon an excurſion with ſome of his people, who told the Indians that guided them, that Alvaro and his companions

companions were a mean, inſignificant race of people, born to ſervility, and unworthy the attendance that was paid them: to which the ſimple Indians reaſonably anſwered, that ſuch a report was incredible, ſince they had great ſkill in curing the diſeaſed, and delighted in doing good; beſides which, they kept nothing for themſelves, but generouſly divided with their followers whatever preſents were made to them; whereas, on the contrary, thoſe who endeavoured to miſrepreſent them, in attempting to paint others, gave the colouring that diſtinguiſhed themſelves; ſince, inſtead of ſaving people from death, they rejoiced in deſtroying them unprovoked; that they uſed their attendants with great haughtineſs and cruelty, and avaritiouſly coveted every thing they ſaw, than which there could not be a ſtronger inſtance of meanneſs.

This was certainly arguing in the ſtile of good ſenſe, and nettled Diego extremely, who revenged himſelf upon Alvaro, by leading him and his two companions into many inconveniencies, having perſuaded him to diſmiſs his Indians, and truſt himſelf for ſafe conduct to a Spaniſh ſettlement. To thoſe, whom Diego's endeavouring

deavouring to ſet the Indians againſt Alvaro may ſurpriſe, it is neceſſary to obſerve, that his ſole reaſon for it was, his not being able to bear that other people ſhould be treated with a deference and reſpect that he and his followers had been always ſtrangers to: neither from their conduct did they deſerve it.

However, Alvaro and his men made a ſhift to reach St. Michael's, where Nunez de Guſman the governor received them very tenderly, giving them good cloaths; for they had gone for a great while naked, and after that he ſhipped them off for Mexico.

Neither the ill ſucceſs of Narvaez, nor the hardſhips ſuſtained by his followers, could deter Ferdinand de Soto from trying what advantages were to be drawn from an expedition to Florida; in ſupport of which he entreated the protection of his catholic majeſty, which was not only readily granted, but alſo a commiſſion, appointing him governor of Cuba, (that being a convenient place of arms) and preſident of Florida, with the title and rank of a marquis.

Ferdinand was a man of an aſpiring genius, endued with prudence and va-

lour; he was ſon to a gentleman of Badajoz, and had raiſed himſelf by his ſword; he firſt went to the Indies with governor Peter Araias D'Avila, and afterwards attended Pizarro in the conqueſt of Peeru, where his military virtues were remarkable; and he was made lieutenant-general.

Having aſſembled about one thouſand men, and ten ſail of ſhips, he ſet out for Cuba, and arrived at the port of St. Jago, after a proſperous voyage. This iſland is two hundred leagues long from eaſt to weſt, and between fourteen and fifteen from north to ſouth: it has ſix principal towns, the largeſt being St. Jago and Havannah, which are well peopled, and drive a conſiderable trade; the houſes are well built, and the people rich; there is good paſture for horſes, which thrive well here; alſo hogs and oxen; and green graſs all the year: the ſoil is fertile, and bears figs, oranges, lemons, and ſeveral fruits well known in Europe, beſides many that thrive only in the American climates; there is alſo plenty of gold to be found here.

Having made ſome neceſſary regulations in this place, he left the government

to

to the care of his wife; and reimbarked with nine hundred foot, and upwards of three hundred horſe, on the 12th of May, 1539; and on the 31ſt, anchored in the bay of the Holy Ghoſt, on the eaſt ſide of the gulph of Mexico, in 27 degrees north latitude, landing about three hundred men and two hundred and thirty horſes to lighten the ſhip, about leagues from a town belonging to a cacique called Ucita; and encamped them on the ſea-ſide, where next morning they ſuſtained an attack from the Indians, which, as they were on their guard, they ſoon rendered ineffectual.

By degrees he brought all his men on ſhore, except the ſailors, who in eight days piloted the ſhips up to the town; and Vaſquez Porcallo going out to forage with ſeven men, was met by ſix Indians, who diſcharged their arrows at him: two of the Indians he killed, but the other four eſcaped, the men that purſued them falling with their horſes in a bog.

The next day, the army, under the direction of Lewis de Moſcoſo, who acted as his major-general, marched into the town, where the governor already was; it conſiſted of about eight houſes, the

ſtrongeſt of which, built on an eminence, was the reſidence of Ucita, who had retired to the hills, fearing a retaliation of the ill uſage he had given to ſome of Narvaez's followers, who had fallen into his hands and been murdered. The houſes were all made of timber, covered with palm-tree leaves; and in one of them were found ſome pearls, threaded like beads, but dulled with ſmoke; theſe the natives wear, by way of ornament, about their wriſts and necks.

Gallegos was now ſent out with forty horſe and eighty foot to make ſome priſoners; and Lobillo being diſpatched another way with fifty ſoldiers, ſoon returned, bringing with him four female captives, and ſix of his men wounded, one of whom died in a very little time; but, about two leagues from the town, the former met a party of Indians, armed with bows and arrows, marching in a regular peaceable manner, on whom his people would have fallen, without waiting any command, had they not retired ſwiftly to the neighbouring woods, when they ſaw the Spaniards advance upon them in a hoſtile manner; however, one man ſtood to receive them, to transfix whom,

whom, a perſon of the name of Nieto, had already raiſed his lance, when he made the ſign of the croſs, and cried out in Spaniſh, "I am a Chriſtian, and a Spaniard; ſpare "me, and recal my ſcattered friends, to "whom I owe my life, and whoſe inten-"tions are peaceable."

This addreſs cauſed Gallegos to halt, who in this perſon, ſo little differing in appearance from the Indians, diſcovered one of Narvaez's followers, called John Ortiz; on which he reſtrained the ill-timed ardour of his people, and encouraging the ſcattered Indians to return-brought them all ſafely to the camp, to the great ſatisfaction of Soto, who was more particularly pleaſed with the acquiſition of Ortiz, as in him he hoped to find an interpreter, who would be of ſpecial ſervice to him in his future progreſs.

John Ortiz was of a good family in Seville; and, having followed the fortune of Narvaez, was by him diſpatched from Florida, with letters to his wife then in Cuba; but, on his return, fell into the hands of the Indians, together with another Spaniard, whom they cut in pieces for making ſome ſort of defence; but Ortiz was brought to the cacique Ucita,

who at firſt ordered him to be ſuſpended over a ſlow fire, and roaſted alive; however, at the entreaty of his daughter, Ortiz was ſaved, and appointed to protect the dead bodies near the temple from being carried away by the wolves, who were generally buſy at night. He was very near loſing his life; for, a wolf ran away with the child of an Indian chief, but was ſaved, upon its being found dead with a dart which Ortiz had ſtruck into its body, and the child lying near it unhurt.

Some time after, Ucita being driven from this place by a neighbouring cacique, Ortiz loſt both his poſt and favour; and it was already reſolved to ſacrifice him to the devil; when ſhe, who had before ſaved him, not only informed him of the danger, but directed him how and whither to eſcape, conducting him a part of the way herſelf. He now fell into the hands of Mucozo, to whom he promiſed fidelity; and in return home as much as poſſible, and allow him, without any reſtriction, to join the firſt Chriſtians he could hear of upon the coaſt; but this was an intelligence he now began to deſpair of, having been three years with Ucita, and

nine

nine years with Mucozo, who had treated him always with great hoſpitality, and now ſent him with offers of peace and aſſiſtance to meet Soto, attended by ſome of his principal people.

The governor uſed thoſe perſons who came with Ortiz very humanely, entreating them to aſſure their cacique, that his kindneſs to this Chriſtian ſhould never be forgot, but repaid in the moſt grateful manner; and then he diſmiſſed them, having been by them informed of a territory, thirty leagues farther, belonging to a cacique called Paracoſſi, to whom Ucita and Mocozo paid tribute, and whoſe poſſeſſions were richer than any near the ſeaſide. He was ſhortly after viſited by Mucozo in perſon, whom he received with great affability, and found him not only a man of good ſenſe, but alſo ſeemingly one who meant what he ſaid; a character not common among the Americans, nor indeed can we boaſt much of this ſincerity among the more civilized Europeans.

Not long after this interview, Soto, in imitation of Cortes's conduct, in circumſtances not very different, ſent his ſhips, three or four coaſting veſſels excepted,

back to Cuba, with orders however to ſome of them to return at a certain time with proviſions: in one of them went Porcallo de Figuera, who for ſome time had had a difference with the governor, and was moreover diſcontented at finding ſo many moraſſes, and thick impenetrable woods, without a proſpect of treaſure to pay their toil, or Indians of whom to make ſlaves, which were much wanted in the mines of Cuba, and to ſearch for which was his principal inducement to this expedition, wherein he had a principal command.

Though Soto behaved towards ſuch of the natives as fell in his way with great mildneſs, and took all poſſible care to prevent irregularities, they uſed ſuch Spaniards as they met with very indifferently; and having ſurpriſed a party that were foraging, they took one priſoner, whom they ſtripped naked; and when they thought themſelves out of danger, they ſat down to eat, drink, and be merry with their wives; whom they left, together with their captive, in the hands of ſome Spaniards that purſued them; the women were all brought to Soto,

Soto, who uſed them civilly, and then diſmiſſed them.

Gallegos being ſent forwards to the dominions of Paracoſſi, found it all the way a plentiful country, bounding with vines, walnuts, pine, plum, oak, mulberry, &c. beſides receiving intelligence of people, at a place called Cale, who had plenty of proviſion, and much gold, of which they made ſhields and head-pieces in their wars; of all theſe things he ſent word to the governor, who prepared to follow him, leaving the care of the ſhipping, with forty horſe, to Calderon, whom while he recommended to Mucozo, he ſtrictly charged to avoid offending the natives on any account.

In the mean time Gallegos had ſollicited a conference with Paracoſſi to no purpoſe; for he ſent thirty of his people with very frivolous excuſes, whom therefore Gallegos detained; and being now joined by Soto and all his men, they ſet forward towards Cale, the governor himſelf leading an advanced party of thirty horſe and ſeventy foot: having paſſed thro' a town that was forſaken by the inhabitants, they came to a river where the current was very ſtrong, carrying away

one of their horſes; however, the reſt were brought over by means of a hauſer, and the men paſſed upon a bridge of old trees that lay contiguous to the water. In this march the Spaniards ſuffered a good deal; for the country being deſerted, they found no ſuſtenance, except beet-roots, which they ate with ſalt and water; and the young maiz ſtocks, the maiz being not ripe as yet, and the proviſions they had brought with them having been ſoon conſumed.

At Cale they found maiz enough to ſerve them for three months, but every man was obliged to pound his own proportion in a wooden mortar, and ſift the flour through their ſhirts of mail, which was ſo very troubleſome, that ſome choſe rather to eat it parched; nay, not eat it till compelled by neceſſity. The Indians had abandoned this town on the approach of the Spaniards, but kept lurking about a neighbouring lake, whence they made a ſally, and killed three of Soto's followers, as they were gathering maiz.

Auguſt the 11th, 1539, Soto left Cale; and being attacked the ſame day by a party of Indians, put them to flight, making twenty eight priſoners: ſoon

after this engagement, a perſon who pretended to be a cacique, came and entreated their liberty, promiſing in return a good quantity of proviſion, and a guide for the army; the governor granted his requeſt, but however kept him in ſafe cuſtody till he ſhould fulfil his agreement: in order to which, he deſired to be conducted within hearing of a party of Indians that ſkirted a neighbouring wood; but he broke from his keepers as ſoon as he came in ſight of them, and ran ſo ſwiftly, that it was impoſſible for a Chriſtian to pretend to purſue him; whereupon Soto, who was a witneſs of his flight, ordered a hound that had been fleſhed to be ſet after him, which paſſing many other Indians, ſeized the fugitive by the haunch, and held him till the captors came up, a circumſtance which frightened him ſo exceſſively, that they not only were ſupplied with proviſion, but their guide alſo conducted them thro' a better road than any they had paſſed for ſome time.

In their march, however, they were often aſſailed by the natives, whom they ſtill repulſed with loſs; and having paſſed a moraſs, not without ſome difficulty, they

they entered the province of Acuera, where they reſted twenty days, not without being often alarmed by the natives; thence Soto proceeded to Occali, where he was met by the cacique, whom he received with great affability; and having got other guides from him, marched on towards Vitacucho, a province about fifty leagues in extent, under the government of three brothers, one of whom took to arms on the approach of Soto, refuſing all terms of peace, until ſome priſoners being taken, were releaſed upon promiſing to carry a polite meſſage from the Spaniards to him, which they did; and in conſequence of it, he not only came to their camp, but alſo ſent his brothers word of their civil behaviour, and kept them company ſome time.

Upon his brother's repreſentations, the youngeſt of the three entered into alliance with Soto; but the eldeſt, who was known by the name of the country, Vitacucho, detained all the meſſengers, except one, by whom he reproached his brothers for what they had done; and alſo ſent word to the Spaniards, that if they offered to enter his territories, he would put them to the cruelleſt tortures that

that could be deviſed. To this menace Soto ſent back ſuch an anſwer as ſpoke his contempt of it, and at the ſame time gave the angry cacique ſuch an idea of his reſolution, and the courage of his followers, that he came in a peaceable manner, gallantly attended, to the Spaniſh quarters, where having apologized for his indiſcretion, he promiſed for the future his friendſhip; and was diſmiſſed not a little pleaſed with his genteel reception.

But his ſubmiſſion was barely external; for in the mean time he meditated the deſtruction of the Spaniards; and ſelected ten thouſand men, with which to cut them off the firſt favourable opportunity: however, having entruſted Soto's four interpreters with his deſign, they applauded and encouraged him to put it in execution; but revealed it to John Ortiz, who communicated it to the governor, by whom he was ordered to keep it ſecret; at the ſame that he made uſe of proper precautions to behave with the ſame freedom as uſual, and not give Vitacucho the ſmalleſt room to imagine that he was diſcovered.

When

When the plot was ripe for execution, the Indians were drawn out very gaily trimmed, to the number of ten thouſand, upon a neighbouring plain, with a wood on their left, and a lake on their right hand; every one having his arrows covered with graſs lying before him, which they were to ſeize upon the word being given. Hither Vitacucho invited the governor, as he ſaid, to ſhew him the manner in which his people exerciſed; the invitation was complied with, and in return, as the greateſt compliment that could be paid to a prince, the Spaniards were ordered to march the ſame day in order of battle; with which the cacique, whom, to prevent all ſuſpicion, Soto accompanied on foot, having his armour privately under his coat, was well pleaſed, as by that means, he imagined, he ſhould have them all at once in the toil.

When the two leaders came to a particular ſpot, a muſket, being the ſignal appointed for that purpoſe, was fired; on which Soto threw off his upper garment, ſeized Vitacucho, and delivered him to ſome of his people, then mounting his horſe, headed his cavalry, which advanced quick, and bearing down upon the main body

body of the Indians, made a vaſt ſlaughter of them, ſoon putting them to the rout, ſome ſheltering themſelves in the covert of the wood, and others leaping into the lake.

The Spaniards killed numbers of them as they fled, and the muſkets and croſs-bows were turned againſt them who had taken the water, in order to compel them to ſurrender; but, being excellent ſwimmers, they diſcharged their arrows as long as ever they laſted, mounting upon each other's backs to take the ſurer aim, whereby many of them were more fairly laid open to the croſs-bows and muſket-balls. Being at length exhauſted of weapons, they kept the middle of the lake, which was but ſmall, hoping thereby to eſcape, but their ſtrength at laſt failing them, ſeveral of them came to land and ſurrendered, whom the Spaniards helped out, and protected from harm, after they had remained above twenty hours in water; however, ſeven remained there ſtill, who ſeemed determined rather to periſh than ſubmit; but at laſt, twelve Spaniards, who were excellent ſwimmers, and men of great ſtrength and activity, flung themſelves

themſelves in, with their ſwords in their mouths, and catching them by the hair of their heads juſt as they were ſinking, brought them to land.

Being examined by the governor, with regard to their obſtinately perſiſting in their own deſtruction, the principal of them anſwered, that having been entruſted with command, they thought they had no better way of convincing the cacique, that their defeat was owing neither to want of courage nor fidelity, but purely to ill fortune, than by dying with their honour. The governor, who was a man of courage himſelf, and prized it very highly in others, treated them with great courteſy; and when they were refreſhed, and had gathered, thro' his care of them, ſufficient ſtrength after their fatigue, diſmiſſed them with preſents of looking-glaſſes, and other trifles, that pleaſed them extremely, as being young men, and three of them not more than eighteen years old each; but firſt, to the other four, who were much older, and principal officers, he declared, in the preſence of their cacique, that they merited death for their treacherous deſigns; but to convince them of the difference between

between their diſpoſitions and thoſe of Chriſtians, he forgave them, hoping that by this example they would deport themſelves more honourably for the future.

Soto, who had great humanity about him, now endeavoured by mildneſs and affability to ſecure the fidelity of the Indians, not allowing any of his followers to chain their priſoners, or put them to any very toilſome work; ſetting the cacique conſtantly at his own table, and allowing him the whole town to range through: this uſage he certainly was far from deſerving; for he ſet on foot, and vigorouſly abetted another conſpiracy againſt the Spaniards, the conſequences of which were near being fatal to Soto and all his people; ſo true is the obſervation, that there are ſome people in whoſe nature vice is ſo firmly ingrafted, as was treachery in Vitacucho, that it can only be eradicated with life; and the experience of this, certainly, gives a ſanction to the ſeverity of many proceedings, which might otherwiſe be interpreted into cruelty.

On the ſeventh day after the battle, Vitacucho, being as uſual at dinner with Soto,

Soto, ſtarted up ſuddenly, and gave a loud cry; at the ſame time ſtruck the governor with his clenched fiſt, and then ſeizing him by the throat, attempted to ſtrangle him, after which he fell with him to the ground; but was ſoon killed by ſome Spaniſh officers, and the governor ſet at liberty: at the very ſame inſtant, every other Indian fell upon the perſon to whoſe ſevice he was aſſigned, with whatever weapon was next to hand, ſuch as pots, fire-brands, logs of wood, &c. nor was it without great difficulty they were quelled; moſt of them being at length cut to pieces, and the remainder tied to ſtakes, and ſhot to death by the Indians of Paracoſſi, who had been for ſome time at liberty, and ſerved the Spaniards very faithfully.

Vitacucho's brothers ſtill perſiſting in their diſpoſition to peace, the governor abandoned their dominions, and took a north-weſt rout towards Apalachen, a province of which he had heard ſome good accounts, where he arrived without any material accident in a very ſhort time; here he found that Capaci, the cacique, had retired from the city, and fortified

fortified himſelf in a wood about eight leagues diſtant. Thither Soto marched, attacked him in his entrenchments; and, after a very deſperate reſiſtance, took him priſoner, being a very infirm man, and carried in a litter, putting his army intirely to the rout. But the Indians often afterwards infeſting his camp, ſurpriſing his people in ſmall parties, and proving otherwiſe very troubleſome, the cacique promiſed to prevent theſe alarms, provided he was allowed to go among them a little way into the country; which was accordingly granted, he being ſent under a guard, who being not ſo careful of him as they ſhould have been, he made his eſcape upon all-fours, and was carried off unknown to his keepers by ſome of his people. The Spaniards, when they miſſed him, to excuſe themſelves, told Soto, that Capaci had certainly flown from them through the air; to which aſſertion he calmly anſwered; "That "it was not unlikely, for the Indians "were certainly ſorcerers:" not that this was his ſerious opinion, but his anſwer was only in deriſion of them who could ſuppoſe it.

It

It being the month of October, and winter advancing upon them, Soto reſolved to paſs that ſeaſon here; for which purpoſe, Lewis Moſcoſo his major-general quartered his people within a league, or a league and a half of the town; the country all round yielding ſtore of French-beans, and plums better than any to be found in Spain, and plenty of maiz.

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